

GO ENGAGE
Part 2: IS EVERYBODY A VICTIM?
August 12, 2018

“... we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for Him to return as our Savior.”
Philippians 3:20 (NLT)

VICTIM MENTALITY
An _____ by which one views himself/herself as the victim of negative _____, _____ or the negative actions of _____ and to behave as if it is true (whether it is or not).

OUR CHANGING MORAL CULTURE

A. _____ CULTURE

Honor is a kind of status attached to physical bravery and the unwillingness to be dominated by anyone and is dependent upon the evaluation of others. Any slight or insult that threatens one's honor provokes a personal response. Reliance on law or any other authority to settle the matter would lower one's standing.



B. _____ CULTURE

Dignity exists independent of the evaluation of others. So, I have intrinsic worth regardless of what others think. My status is not dependent upon the evaluation of others. It is commendable to have a "thick skin", which enables me to shrug off slights and insults. If the offense is serious, then, as a last resort, involve third parties (police/courts).



C. _____ CULTURE

Significant concern with status and sensitivity to slight combined with a heavy reliance on third parties. Victims are intolerant of insults, however slight or even unintentional, and react by involving third parties (authorities/the public at large). Rather than emphasize their strength and inner worth, the aggrieved emphasize their oppression and social marginalization.

“He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”
Matthew 5:45 (NIV)

- **REALITY:** _____ is a _____ of _____.

IMPACT OF A VICTIM MENTALITY

1. I _____ for myself.
2. I believe I have _____ over my situation.
3. I _____ circumstances, social structure or others for my situation.
4. I refuse to _____ for my part in any situation.
5. I refuse to _____.
6. I fail to _____.

- **REALITY:** I can't always control what happens _____. But I can control what happens _____.

FROM VICTIM TO VICTOR

"For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God."

1 John 5:4-5 (NLT)

1. REMEMBER _____

"He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away. Yet who of His generation protested? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people He was punished. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth."

Isaiah 53:7-9 (NIV)

"Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great ... because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Isaiah 53:12 (NIV)

2. STOP LIVING IN THE _____.

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)

- **I can't change the past. I can either _____ with it or _____ in it. But I can't do both.**

3. _____.

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins." Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)

4. **REMEMBER** _____ **PRODUCES** _____.

"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love. Romans 5:3-5 (NLT)

5. **TAKE** _____.

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:26-29 (NIV)

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS ...

- Having suffered from a significant trauma that continues to victimize me, I will seek the help I need.
 - ThrivePointe Counseling
- I will identify areas in my life where I tend to engage in a victim mentality and I will apply today'
- Discover what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.
 - Check box on back of Communication Card
- I will get involved in a LIFE Group or Task Group.
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