

22T17 Regret

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me today for an @ the PUNLA coffee table.

Regret. Regret is defined as feeling sad, repentant, or disappointed over something that has happened or been done, especially a loss or missed opportunity. Synonyms are “to be sorry about”, remorse, sorrow, guilt and anguish. I don’t like the word anguish but last night I felt anguish. Sorrow, guilt. Regret.

I had an opportunity to show the light of Jesus to someone and I missed it. Missed it badly and sadly. I have regret.

Let’s pray. Heavenly Father I am sorry Lord. I let you down. I felt the urge and I failed you. Lord help me to never miss an opportunity like that again. Help me Father, to always put you first. I am so ashamed that I let my schedule and my rush and my frustration to steal the opportunity you gave me to show your love to someone in need. I pray for the person who helped me and that you might make away for me to bless them in your name Jesus. And I pray in your name Lord Jesus. Amen.

So let me tell you, my story. I am building a garage at my house right now. Yesterday, I needed to get two doors for the installers to put in today. I had one of those days yesterday, I felt hurried all day. I was distracted, and interrupted over and over, so did not get done what I planned to get done. After dinner last night my kids wanted me to spend time with them and I failed as a father. I was rushed to get to the store before it closed so I could buy the doors I needed. It was only 7pm and the store didn’t close until 10pm. But I still missed the opportunity to show my kids they are important, instead I hurried off to the store. I checked the inventory of the store before I left home, so I would be sure to find what I needed. The Pearland Texas HomeDepot had the doors I needed in stock. Off I went 7:30pm. 7:50pm I arrived at the store, still hurried, rushed, distracted. I went straight to the aisle in the store. No doors. I could not find them anywhere. I thought to myself, “how is this possible, I know I checked this before I left.” I called one of the clerks to help me. Oh, I’m in the wrong store. Pearland Texas has two HomeDepots. One 10 miles from my house, the other 25 miles from my house. Despite my noticeable frustration, the very helpful clerk, searched and found them at another HomeDepot a little closer in Houston Texas near me. I again rushed to my van and headed off in a huff. Now it’s 8:00pm. About twenty minutes later I have the doors, and I’m headed for my van. It’s dark and I’m a more than just a little out of sorts. Not myself. As I approach my car, I’m trying to figure out how I’m going to maneuver these two large doors into my minivan, by myself. Concern is welling up in me, because I know I can do it but I also know it won’t be easy. Just then a woman approaches me. She is a little dirty from being outside all day, and asks if she can help me load. I say no thank you. I can get it myself. This was my first mistake. Yes, I could probably do it but yes, I really could use the help. And I really underestimated her. Regret #1. Second, as a rule I don’t ever carry cash. So, there was nothing I could pay her with. Excuse #1. For the next few minutes, I maneuver and fiddle with the first door. It’s heavy,

maybe 150lbs but big and fragile and not easy to move. Oh, I forgot to tell you, the day before I hurt my shoulder. So I can't really lift with one arm. But I'm still arrogantly sure I can still do it, or so I thought. Then this very sweet lady, grabs one side and says, let me help you. I want to say no but, I can't. I really need the help. Instead of being grateful, all I'm thinking is what excuse to tell her about not having any cash. I missed it. I was distracted. Regret #2. She was strong. She helped me load the second door, or I should say I helped her. Barely, rightfully she did all the work. She said, I'm stronger than I look even though I'm a girl. I left bags of concrete all day. It did not register to me at the moment. This woman was there in the HomeDepot parking lot looking for work. Day labor work, helping people load for tips. I missed it. Regret #3. Oh, I felt like I'd made her feel inferior. Regret #4. But I still had not cash. I had nothing to offer her and by now I'm realizing she needs it. She deserves it. But instead, all I have to give her is an excuse and a thank you. How pathetic am I. I failed my God big. When I get in my van, I scrambled to find something. I dumped my billfold, only cards no cash. Nothing worthy of the appreciation I owed her. I thank her again and apologized. She says that's fine, most people don't have cash these days. This means people fail to pay her over and over each day. And now I'm the latest. I'm ashamed. As I drive away, now it's 8:35pm. Emotion is beginning to swell in me. At first, I'm not sure what I'm feeling but I know God is speaking to me. Turn around, I heard. But why, why should I turn around, I thought. I keep driving. Regret #5. As I drive home and trying to think of what I can do to make this right. Can I go home and get money and come back. No, she'd probably be gone by the time I get back Excuse #3, it would take nearly an hour to make the round trip. But I have nothing what can I do? As I exit the freeway near my home, my urge is to turn around. Why God, why? I reasoned she is probably already gone the store closes soon. Excuse #4. Now I'm making excuses fast as I continue to drive Excuse #5, #6, #7 etc. Soon, I'm driving in my driveway 9:05pm. Then it hits me. I had a business card in my pocket. I'm going to need help on my project next week. Our charity helps people find work. I claim to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus but I missed it. And I'm ashamed. I missed it. Someone in need, that I could and should have helped. And I missed it. Many regrets. Too many excuses to count. Not enough listening to God. I failed. So, I stopped and bowed my head. I asked Jesus to forgive me for not listening. Forgive me for not showing His love when I had the obvious opportunity. How pathetic I felt. I'm not worthy. I'm don't deserve the blessing God gives me every day.

Now, I'm never going to be caught without a few bucks in my billfold, just for those who are in need. I pray that I don't miss it every again.

Father God, I'm so very sorry that I let my rush and frustration get in the way. You made it clear to me and I ignored you. You gave me opportunity after opportunity and I failed you. Forgive Father. I am ashamed that I did not honor you with my words and actions but instead let me selfish. I pray these things in your name Lord Jesus, Amen

So, Today I went back. I searched the parking lot and store but did not find her. I plan to try again later this week. She deserves more from me than just a thank you. God

deserves more from me than just excuses. I want to apologize to her for missing it. Then I had wished to offer her that business card, that opportunity to work and that opportunity God wants us to provide for her. I don't want to miss it again. Lord, Whatever it is Lord, I say yes.

Thank you for joining me @ the PUNLA Coffee Table to hear my regret. We all have a lot of these opportunities, don't miss them. God has blessings for those who listen and act.

If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel and select the notification bell so you can be notified when we post new videos. Leave comments here, or our website or email me.

Until next time @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.