

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Robert Reimer, Professor of Pastoral Theology

SF770/PMN460 Soul Care

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What sins have you and your family struggled with?

My family struggles with the sins of alcoholism, wife abusers, and womanizing.

I'm an IGBO from the Eastern region of Nigeria, where customs are highly valued and people are quite traditional. The Igbo are home to both real and fake gods. I will start by introducing myself. My traditional name is Chidozie Mbadugha (nee). Mbadugha, my great-grandfather, was a polygamist who had three wives and concubines. Being a warrior and a chief, Mbadugha committed many atrocities, including taking other people's wives and killing twice. His first wife gave birth to two sons, James and Ajero. James and his brother Ajero both inherited alcoholism from their father. My grandpa's name is James Mbadugha. He was a fantastic farmer and a very wealthy man in his day, but he also had a problem with women and drink. In his thirties, he disobeyed his father's wishes and adopted the white man's faith; as a result, he only had one wedding wife and many concubines, including the wife of one of his deceased relatives. Everyone knows that he had many children with other women, and when I was growing up, my father would refer to them as his father's children when he was talking to us. James Mbadugha was a warrior who also caused problems. I could clearly recall an instance in which he was physically abusing my grandmother in front of us.

. My father was so mad at him. James Mbadugha was a great farmer which he inherited it from his father Mbadugha, James Mbadugha had two sons (like his father) from his legitimate wife. His two sons are Charles who happened to be my father, and Justin my uncle. James Mbadugha sent my father to school because of his exposure with the white men. My father was one of the first educated persons in my village. After his education, he established his own business in partnership with a French company. In a short period my father became so rich,

influential, arrogant, womanizing and alcoholic like his father. In the 50's when Nigerians, especially Igbo, did not own cars and only rode on bicycles. My father bought a white jaguar with a white interior from his French partner. The car made him so popular within the eastern part of Nigeria, my mother claimed that my father used that car to flirt with his concubines. Because of his wealth, he took a chieftaincy title ezeugbo (king of car) and I believe that the chieftaincy title was fetish because of the animal blood sacrifice and after the chieftaincy title he became so powerful and women love powerful men. My father started living his father's lifestyle. Ezeugbo my father had nine children four boys and five girls and all of his boys are alcoholic, two of the boys are fighting the spirit of alcohol because they are highly spiritual they have undergone a lot deliverance, two continued drinking alcohol but four years our son died out of excessive alcohol, but my immediate senior brother continues even during the thanksgiving he so drunk that my children was advising me to him to a psychologist.

My maternal family, my mother was born into a family, the two sets of twins were killed because they considered the babies to be evil and sacrilege, my mother has this same family background. He was a drunkard, problem maker and a wife beater. My mother grew up in a violent environment

Has there been any addictive behavior in you or in your family tree? If so, what?

How pervasive is it?

Growing up physically abused was a weekly thing in family is either my father is beating or he abusing his wife, his children and his staff both physically and verbally, verbally abused is one of my family tree sin which each and everyone of us inherited from our father before I came a Christian I always cause out my immediate brother each time he got drunk both us will use the words of mouth to kill our mind and tomorrow we will become friends because that's what we learned from our father. It was so pervasive because I was always ready to verbally abuse people because I saw it as a way of life until I meant my husband and I saw the calmness in him. As younger I saw physical abuse as a normal thing. I have the mindset that I will be

physically fighting with my husband when I get married because I said my grandfather did it to his wife, my uncle and my father also physically and verbally abused my mother in front of us. In our family we will be abused you this minute and the next minute we will apologize and my mom believes that there was an evil force behind it because whenever my dad became abusive he will return to a monster his face will change and he will have this unimaginable energy that ten men cannot withstand him and it happens to each and every one of us.

Is there any anxiety, depression, suicide, suicide attempts, suicide ideologies, mental illness, mental hospitalizations, and/or self-harm in the family tree?

Yes, anxiety and depression. My father was depressed growing up because things were not progressive the way he planned, he gave us a good educational foundation by sending us to the best school in town, especially the boys. He brought his first son to the University of Nebraska in 1975 to study medicine but he returned as an alcoholic with no degree. While my brother was in America my father was paying his tuition through the bank to the school but my brother did not attend the class rather he would go back and cancel the classes and collect his refund from the school, spent on women, marijuana, and alcohol, my father did not know all this because there was no communication as of them until the university of Nebraska sent a letter of dismissal to my father in Nigeria that was when my father went into depression.

My mother also had anxiety and depression because of the treatment she was getting from her husband. My mother had a spirit of unforgiveness, and some of my siblings inherited from her. I inherited anxiety and depression from my family tree. Because my father abused my mother a lot so growing up I have the mind set that my father will kill my mother but I thank GOD that it was all imagination but panic is still with me and I got depressed easily especially since moving to America eight years ago, moving to America was a culture shock to me and my husband the struggle for a standard living is too much for us. I thank God that this struggle laid me to Christ.

Describe your religious history. Any other religious practices beside Christianity?
Any occult activity?

I was born and brought up with a strong catholic background, I attended cathedral nursery school and primary school as a young girl I desperately wanted to become a Nun in order to continue with my service to the Lord. At a tender age of 12, I applied at a local Nun Secondary School and was accepted. I was there for a few semesters and ultimately left the sisterhood college as my goal to become a nun was not in line with that of my parents. I attended a government college and subsequently a university, and I still continued to live with my spiritual personality, knowing that I was at a loss on where to go with it. I felt that I should find another way to serve the Lord.

My husband's family. My father in law claimed to be a Christian but at some time he always visited some of this faithish shrine (idol) for protection of his family. My husband as his son the father took him to the chief priest for protection and the chief priest used shape razor to him mark in his body(the meaning of that mark is that you will kill yourselves before you will me)

Was there a lot of division, fighting, bitterness, anger, resentment, and/or grudge-holding in your family system?

Growing up my house was a war 2 zone, a lot of open confrontations from each other, segregation from the girls, siblings revelry more especially from my senior sister. My two senior usually physically fight each other any time they are together in our father's family house

Was there any violence in your family? Was there any abuse? Include both perpetrators and victims in the family.

The violence continue in my family especially with me until eight years when I had the last physical fight with my immediate senior brother In Nigeria that I near killed him because he was drunk and was bringing shame to our family so I told him to stop and he verbally abused me so I

beat hell of him because whenever I am mad with somebody that generational evil strength will descend me that ten men cannot withstand me (like my father)

Is there any sexual abuse, rape, molestation, incest in your family system? Include both perpetrators and victims.

We are a product of rape from my great great mother from my paternal, she was raped by a white colonia master that's where I got my light skin color and my blonde hair from.

My late michael committed a rape act, one in Nabrasca and that's why he left America because the police were searching for him.

Has there been sexual immorality, infidelity, perversion, or other types of sexual sin in the family tree?

As a young girl was highly distracted by men I started dating First love at 16 yrs of age.

My first love left Nigeria to America in search of greener pasture

We both took a blood oath to marry each other before he left for America, but I broke the oath by being married to my husband 30 years ago. Up till now I still have him in my mind. I loved and respected my husband Because he provided us (his family) everything, especially love and peace. I have asked the Holy Spirit to remove him (my first) from my memory, and I believe he is doing so gradually because the situation is not as bad as it was two years ago and this particular person is 5,000 miles away from me and I have no current contact with him. I have prayed for forgiveness and asked him to forgive me 25 years ago , which I believe he did.

However, till this point, my mind could not let go of him.

Nigeria has a rate of infidelity especially on men because of the culture. My husband is guilty of infidelity, I suspected and confronted him but denied it until six years ago he came and confessed to me but I have forgiven him

Has there been deception, lying, or secrecy in the family tree?

Yes I believe that my husband is hiding some of his affairs with women especially when we are in Nigeria, and also I am guilty of secrecy because I did not tell him about my first love, the oath

taken and everything. I did not tell him about the boy friends had before him. I only told him about one person. After our wedding I believed he was dating other girls because of the society we came from. It is okay for a man to be having an affair outside his home but it is a sacrilege for a woman to be outside her matrimonial home.

Lying is a way of life in Nigeria, 99% of Igbo culture is built out of lies. Lying spirit is what I have been fighting since I was born again. The spirit of lying is really dealing with me right now .

Everybody in the family lies. Lying is one of my family sin tree followed by alcoholism and womanism