

How To Conquer Captivating Habits

The Spiritual Level

1 Corinthians 6:12

Introduction:

- A. Last week's message explained freedom in Christ
 - 1. Believers are free from the authority of all external r_____.
(*all things are lawful*) but this does not mean that believers are free to break any rule (*but not all things are beneficial*)
 - a. Believers have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ and He has written His laws on our h_____
(Jer 31:31-34)
 - b. The Holy Spirit guides our hearts urging us to act out of love for God and love for those around us (I Cor 6:19; Gal 5:17; Rom 8:14)
 - 2. Believers are not to be mastered by anything or anyone other than the Lord
- B. Last week's message begs a question: What is the solution if I am mastered by something?

Get to the r_____ of the problem

- A. Prov 11:14 states the need for an abundance of c_____
 - 1. The Holy Spirit is our ultimate counselor who often uses human counselors to s_____ us in the right direction.
 - a. The Holy Spirit used Nathan to steer King David to r_____ of his sin of murder & adultery (2 Sam 12).
 - b. The Holy Spirit used Barnabas to encourage people to a_____ Paul as a follower of Christ (Acts 9:26-28).
 - 2. Many secular counselors only deal with the s_____ and not the cause
- B. What is the root cause of addictive behavior?
 - 1. Why did any of you initially try smoking or drinking?
 - a. C_____
 - b. Acceptance by your p_____.
 - 2. Ongoing addictive behavior begins with a s_____ identity crisis but believers are given a clear identity by God:
 - a. 2 Cor 5:17 – new c_____ that erases the old and makes everything new.
 - b. Jn 1:12 – changed in to a c_____ of God (Jn 1:12).
 - c. 2 Tim 2:21 – set apart to be u_____ to the Lord.

3. Addictive behavior persists in order to experience a euphoric f_____ (pleasure center of our brain).
 - a. Rom 1:19-21 tells us that this is a w_____ problem.
 - b. Rom 1:24 tells us that when people give into their pleasures that they go deeper and deeper into that problem.

Grab God's s_____ to the problem

- A. T_____ in what your Creator says about you
 1. When God called Moses to return to Egypt and demand that the Pharaoh release God's people from Egyptian slavery, what was Moses' first question? (Ex 3:10,11) – W_____ am I?
 - a. God convinced Moses to view himself through God's eyes by accepting what God s_____ about him.
 - b. Once Moses grabbed hold of God's viewpoint, he went on to do what God wanted.
 2. There is no h_____ approval to receive than from God.
- B. Refuse to define yourself by your earthly:
 1. J_____ - God says you work for Him (s_____ of Christ (Eph 6:6).
 2. Economic s_____ - you are an h_____ of God (Rom 8:17).
 3. I_____ - God's foolishness is w_____ than human wisdom (1 Cor 1:25).
 4. P_____ - God has erased it and made you new (2 Cor 5:17).
- C. Get your euphoria from w_____ the Lord (loving Him with all your heart).