

Addictions

Today, it seems like everyone is **addicted to something**, or to someone. Addictions take the place of God in your life. When you examine what you really are addicted to, do you like your addiction enough to sacrifice spending time with God? **Addictions distract you from your job, your life, and your Creator, by wasting the precious time that you have been given. Your body and life do not belong to you. You are a steward of them. You will be held accountable for how you treated them when you stand before God to be judged.**

The fascination with people, and things that are in the world, and a desire to gratify and pleasure yourself are snares that will serve to cloud your judgment, and will **separate** you from God. They might promise you that you will “be somebody,” and will feel important, if you associate yourself with them, but they are temporary, and very deceiving. No one can truly satisfy you like God and Jesus Christ. Apart from God you are nothing. Riches and fame are fleeting. Beware of the deceitfulness of riches. True friends will love you and stick with you no matter what, and will not sit in condemnation of you. They **will be honest**, and will tell you the truth. Whatever or whomever **controls you**, you have made **lord and master** over your life, whom you will **serve**. Be careful who and what you choose to associate with. They will either **build up your faith**, or weaken you. **Abide in God’s Love**, through Jesus Christ, **at all times. Have faith in all of God’s Promises in His Word, and do what He says** to do. His instructions are clear, yet few people choose to truly **obey and believe Him**.

Many addictions exist, including sexual addictions, gambling, food and drink addictions, including caffeine, sugar, and alcohol, and nicotine addictions: smoking cigarettes, and cigars, and also chewing tobacco. There are so many legal and illegal drugs that may cause addictions. You may **be addicted to** bad behavior, hatred, violence, improper relationships, being mistreated, lying, gossiping, perversions, and many other addictions.

God wants us to be free through Jesus Christ, from everything that binds us. Jesus purchased our deliverance and freedom from every addiction and from every sin. Every curse and sinful activity must be brought under subjection to Jesus Christ. You must ask for God’s help to free you from addictions. Your flesh fights against your spirit **for control**. “**Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**” 2 Corinthians 10:5. Get rid of anything questionable in your life, which prevents you from glorifying, and being thankful to God.

“**This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.**” “Now the **works of the flesh are manifest**, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **Envyings**, murders, drunkenness, revellings, **and such like**: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, **that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness**, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ’s **have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts**. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of **vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.**” Galatians 5:16,19-26. The key to overcoming addictions and various sins is to completely trust in God through Jesus Christ, putting on the new man through Christ, and not walking in your former addictions and lusts. **Prayer changes things**. Be thoroughly **convinced** that God Loves You and that God’s Word is true and can be trusted. **Walk in faith**, doing what God says to do. “I can **do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**” Philippians 4:13. Love God, and also love other people. “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit **the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.**” James 1:27.