

#106 RESTORING BROKEN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Q: I feel far away from God and can't seem to get back. I'm discouraged and depressed, and I keep making the same mistakes over and over.

ROMANS 7:15;24 "For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. ²⁴O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

A: It looks like you are in good company with Paul! God understands. Jesus promised He will never leave you nor forsake you, and He does not want you to be afraid to come to Him.

ROMANS 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father".

A: Kids make mistakes, and your "Abba" (Daddy!) loves you so much that He became visible in flesh through His Son, our Lord Jesus, to understand what you are going through, and He understands.

HEBREWS 4:15; 2:17,18 "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

Q: I am thankful that Jesus understands and I want His help but how do I find it?

JAMES 4:7-8 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded."

A: Don't be double-minded, following Satan's counsel to you one day, and then try to find Jesus again the next. Make a decision daily, to resist Satan's ideas and draw near to Jesus.

JAMES 1:5-8 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man, unstable in all his ways."

A: Make a decision to stop being unstable in your ways. You can trust Jesus, He stands by you like a lawyer, defending you, pulling for you to make good choices.

1 JOHN 2:1 "My little children, these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Q: It helps to know that Jesus is on my side, but depression and temptation is so strong and I am so weak, how do I start?

PSALMS 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against You."

A: Memorize the word of God, because by hiding God's word in your heart, you strengthen your faith and 'rewire' your mind. Then you will be armed, and know what to do when the battle comes! God has not left you defenseless but has made weapons available for you to fight back, and take authority over every weapon the enemy uses trying to destroy you.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:4-5 "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down strongholds; 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."

A: It is very tempting for us to lay down and feel sorry for ourselves while the devil makes us a victim of circumstances - so what to do? Take those thoughts captive! You have weapons to fight when the devil attacks your mind!

ROMANS 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

A: Following the way of confusion wires your mind that way, or, consistent reading of the word and sitting at Jesus' feet will renew your mind and transform you into God's image.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

A: God is faithful to keep His word to you. But first you must choose to follow His way and God will help you!

PHILIPPIANS 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

A: God will certainly complete what he started in you, that's his part. Your part is to consciously choose to walk with him.

1 JOHN 1:7,9 " But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

A: Even when we are not faithful, our God is faithful and keeps his promises. Jesus is calling you to hear His voice and follow His way for your life, will you listen?"

1 THESSALONIANS 5:24 "Faithful is he that calleth you, who will also do it."

Q: I want to listen and follow God's ways, but it's so hard to give up hope for the (life-pattern/relationship) I am in, what if everything gets better if I just hang on a little longer? It has always worked before.

PHILIPPIANS 3:13,14 "...I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

A: You can stay in the never-ending cycle of broken dreams and broken promises or you can leave the past behind, restore your relationship with God, and look forward to a real future, as you come alive in Him.

Ephesians 2:4-6, "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

A: God has something far better planned for you than you can plan for yourself. No relationship or approval from old friends is worth missing out on a relationship with Jesus and Heaven, and missing out on a stable blessed life now. God has a prize waiting for you if you will let go, so He can lead you to it!

PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, dear Lord Jesus, I thank you for understanding how discouraged and far away I have felt. Forgive me Lord, for my double-minded, sinful heart. Thank you for filling me with your Holy Spirit so that I can be your child and call you "Abba", my Daddy! This day, Lord, I die to my past and leave it behind. I choose to be healed and ask you to make me whole. By faith now, I trust you to guide my life, help me to listen to you and do what you tell me. Strengthen me, Lord, and make your word come alive in me so I will be at peace. Thank you Father, in Jesus name, Amen.



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