

Experience Ultimate Wholeness

Do you ever feel like you are caught in a cement mixer that keeps turning your life upside down over and over? Why is life like that? There could be many reasons, but the one I want to focus on today is our choice to commit sin. God calls us to live holy lives. We are talking about living lives that please God, and a holy life is what ultimately gives us joy.

Do you look back on your life and feel regret and disappointment? Do you keep saying "if only?" If only I had done this or that? How do you want to die? Would you rather die from a disease or would you rather die from an incomplete life filled with sadness? I know you don't want either. Neither do I. One of these two choices I have control over, and the other one I don't.

God has a plan for our individual lives, and when we go by God's plan we live fulfilled lives. When we get away from God's plan and live by our own agenda, we encounter detours to where God wants us. The thing that causes detours can be described by the not "politically correct" word, "sin." Sin is disobedience against God that is caused by a distrust of God. It is when we convince ourselves that God really has no idea what He is doing.

Part of God's plan says we should not be drunkards, but the alcoholic never dreamed he would end up messing up his life when he took his first drink. God's plan says we should not commit adultery, but the man who cheated on his wife never dreamed he would lose his wife and children because of yielding for one moment of sensual pleasure.

Are we destined to live a life of regret with no hope and healing? Can there never be that feeling of wholeness again? Or, is there a remedy?

The Bible refers to our lives as being ground that needs to be plowed and ready to accept what God has for us, but usually our "ground" is hard, very hard. God may be forced to use unusual methods to make the garden of your soul ready for planting? You have to let God break it down. You need to be broken. You have to begin by saying, "I'm hurting, and I need help!"

May I say something without being rude? If you have not been broken yet, if you have not turned your life over to God, then you are a self-centered. You have found out that it is easy to get angry at somebody else's sins, but have found out that it is not easy to look at your own and weep over them. You are not going to find the healing you need unless you let yourself be broken by God.

Can this be your prayer? "Lord, I ain't what I ought to be and I ain't what I'm gonna be, but thanks to you, I ain't what I used to be."

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