

GRACE For Addictions

A One Step Program

Part 8

HIDING BEHIND YOUR ADDICTIONS

Genesis 3:7 "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

My translation: Why are you hiding behind that bottle? That needle? That gossip? That lie? That ____? You fill in the blank. When we're ashamed we find something to hide behind. Everyone of us has a fig leaf we try to hide behind.

Why? Fear! Adam hid his nakedness behind a fig leaf out of fear that God would reject him because of his sin.

Key Point: When Adam sinned his whole perspective changed and an un-natural fear was introduced into his life. He feared being rejected by God which brought insecurity. When we are insecure we are unable to see ourselves as worthy to receive God's love; therefore, we are, also, unable to give love.

DESTROYING FEAR

Mark 9:23 "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

Because Jesus is your security, fear has no place in you. When you are secure, there is no rejection. Secure people can receive love and that gives them the ability to give love.

PERFECT LOVE

I John 4:18-19 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him because he first loved us."

This verse isn't referring to something that you do but something you believe. When you "know" that your Father loves you perfectly, fear and torment leave. It's not "your" perfect love for others but "His" perfect love for you.

PETER AND JOHN

Peter was always saying that he loved the Lord. He said this when he was in trouble. He ended up denying Jesus three times.

John, on the other hand, was always saying, "I'm the one the Lord loves." "Jesus loves me!" John knew his Father loved him perfectly. This is the reason Jesus looked down from the cross and asked John to take care of his mother. Jesus knew He could trust John.

Knowing that your Father loves you perfectly releases the power to overcome your addictions.

MILE WIDE CHRISTIANITY

It has been said that this generation's Christianity is a mile wide and only an inch deep. Why? Because most Christians come to Jesus out of their fear of God. When this happens, they run from Him instead of to Him. If you are "afraid" of God, you don't want to find out more about Him.

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QUESTIONS

1. Insecurity enters our lives when we fear rejection. We don't see ourselves as worthy of love therefore we are unable to give love. True or False
2. All things are possible to those who do everything right? True or False
3. What causes fear and torment to leave?

ANSWERS

1. True
2. False All things are possible to those who believe.
3. Knowing that your Heavenly Father loves you perfectly causes fear and torment to leave.
I John 4:18-19.