

FREE INDEED
God's Power To Set You Free From Addictions

by Jackson Morro

© 2008 by Christ's Chapel
Fall River, Massachusetts

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Version of the Bible.

Printed in the United States of America
All rights reserved

Christ's Chapel
PO Box 3182
Fall River, MA 02722

FREE INDEED
God's Power To Set You Free From Addictions

The Lord Jesus Christ once made the following statement about His ability to set people free:

"If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed."
(John 8:36)

Jesus Christ has the power to set any person free from any addiction. No human being ever has to remain a slave to any substance. Today, I want to use this booklet as a way to have a heart-to-heart talk with you if you are addicted to anything, whether it is alcohol or drugs. This booklet is just for you. If you'll read it seriously, the power of God can change your life forever for the good. I'm not coming to you with psychology or counseling; I'm coming to you with the power of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ, the One

who conquered death. No matter what you may be facing, the power of Jesus Christ is greater. No matter how low you may feel today, the grace of God is greater and it's available to you if you'll come to God right now. The Bible tells us:

For where sin abounded, grace did much more abound. (Romans 5:20)

One of the most serious problems we face in our world today is the fact of addiction. So many are addicted to alcohol or drugs. This is a problem that affects all kinds of people: young and old; male and female; wealthy and poor; people of all races and social classes. Slavery to alcohol or drugs results in the waste of individual human potential, the breakdown of family and other human relationships, physical and mental illness, and even death. People miss God's plan for their lives and even lose out on eternal life and salvation. Once people get trapped in their addictions, they often feel there is no hope, there is no way out. But I have good news for you today if you are addicted. There is hope for you. There is a God who loves you and wants to turn your life around. Remember this:

GOD NEVER TURNS ANYONE AWAY
WHO COMES TO HIM FOR HELP.

God is All-Powerful. He's bigger than any problem. God values your life and your soul as priceless. It's important to God that you get well. Whether you are addicted to alcohol or drugs, or anything, I want you to know that you can face the problem head-on and together with God, you can walk through it to the other side - victory. Will you make that faith commitment right now?

1) YOU'VE GOT TO FACE THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE A PROBLEM AND YOU NEED HELP. The Lord Jesus Christ once said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32) So often when we have a problem, we try to deny there is a problem. If we ignore it, maybe it will just go away. But it doesn't go away; it gets worse. We only hurt ourselves and others more and more, and we deceive ourselves into thinking we've hidden it from others. The toughest thing is to face the truth about a problem we have. However, the sooner we face the truth, the sooner we will get healing. Too often we keep going until we "hit bottom." Then we have to face the truth.

2) **TURN TO GOD.** There is hope. You see, there is a God who is All-Powerful. The same God who created the mountains and the sea and all the stars and solar systems in the sky also has the power to set you free. The same God who created the universe can deliver you. Nothing is impossible for Him. This same God loves you and believes in you. God loves you even when you hate yourself. He loves you even when you hurt and you are afraid. He loves you even if you fail or fall short. He will even love you if you “hit bottom.” Even if everybody else gives up on you, God still believes in you. You are unique and irreplaceable to God. To Him, there’s only one YOU and you are worth His effort and His love. As you turn to God, He’s going to provide you with special help. But there’s something you have to do:

3) **ACCEPT HIS SON JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD.** If you are hooked on alcohol or drugs, you’ve probably tried many times on your own to quit or get clean. You’ve found that you can’t do it on your own. You need help. All recovery programs look to a “higher power” for help. I’m going to bluntly, forthrightly tell you today, that “higher power” is a specific name. That “higher power” is a person: Jesus Christ. He has that power to set you free from that bottle of alcohol. He has that power to set you free from that drug you are addicted to. There’s only one cure for any addiction: the Jesus Christ cure.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, all things become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17). When you accept Jesus as your Lord, He has promised to live in your heart (in your spirit). He gives you a brand new nature: His own life. When you get this new life in you, this new life is more powerful than your old desires and addictions. This new life breaks the power that alcohol or drugs has over you. Nothing can stand against the power of your new life in Christ. That’s the secret of your freedom - the new life of Christ within you. When Jesus lives in you, He can take away the craving you have for alcohol and drugs.

4) **START LIVING ONE DAY AT A TIME WITH GOD THE FATHER AND JESUS.** Every morning God gives you a package of 24 hours. God only wants you to deal with today. You can’t take back yesterday; you don’t know if you will have tomorrow on this earth. God, however, has given you a day called “today.” In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus prayed “Give us this day our daily bread.” He didn’t say our yearly, monthly, or even weekly bread. He just asked for “today.” And so should our focus also be on “today.”

And we must walk with God and with Jesus. We must never try to face the day on our own. Never forget, your freedom doesn't come from your own will power; it comes from the power of Jesus Christ within you. Grow stronger in God. Read your Bible every day. Go to a church that preaches and believes that God is alive and that Jesus has risen. Break away from your old drinking buddies and "druggie" friends. What's more important to you? Your new freedom in Christ, or your attachment to your old habits and cravings? Pray for your old associates who shared your habits and addictions, but you must break away from them. Above all, always TRUST GOD and HIS WAYS.

Your new freedom can all start right now. Just come to God. You may protest, "That's too simple!" Listen to me - if you are addicted, YOU CAN'T HANDLE SOMETHING COMPLICATED - YOU NEED SIMPLICITY. It's time for you to obey the old saying, "Let go - and let God." Right now, as you read this, Jesus Christ is offering you freedom. I'm totally serious as I write this and God is totally serious. Your very life and eternity may depend upon the decision you make this very moment as you read this.

I invite you to pray right now:

"Dear God, I come to You this very moment and from my heart. I call to You for help. I admit that I need Your help. I want to turn away from my sin and be free. I ask Your forgiveness. I ask Jesus to be my Lord. I want to be free in Your strength and serve You all the days of my life. Help me, Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name."

Now, let me pray for you:

"Heavenly Father, I pray that anyone who prayed that prayer from their heart will be forgiven, made new, and be forever set free from any sin that has enslaved them. I pray that the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ will make their new life real and vital in them for now and all eternity. And I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen."

Remember, if the Son, Jesus, shall make you free, you shall be FREE INDEED.

* * *

We invite you to send any prayer requests you might have for prayer at our chapel prayer meetings. Send to:

Christ's Chapel
PO Box 3182
Fall River, MA 02722

Also write to be put on our mailing list to receive periodic letters. Let us know specifically if you'd like to receive the Daily Devotional.