



LIFE'S HEALING CHOICES: The Beatitudes—Part 1 “The Reality Choice”

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven”

The apostle Paul once said about himself: “I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate... I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway.” Romans 7:15,18

CAN YOU IDENTIFY? HOW ABOUT THINGS LIKE:

THE CAUSE: playing God

“But in your great pride you claim, ‘I am a god!’ ...but you are only a man and not a god, though you boast that you are a god.” Ezekiel 28:2 (pg. 647)

THE 1ST HEALING CHOICE: **I ADMIT I need help; that I'm powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and that my life is unmanageable.**

“God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.” Matthew 5:3 (NLT)

1. I humbly admit I need help.

“God opposes the proud but favors the humble.” James 4:6 (pg 932)

“People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.” Proverbs 28:13 (pg 501)

2. I humbly ask God for help.

“We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure... but as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead.” 2 Corinthians 1:9 (pg 882)

“You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.” Matthew 5:3 (The Message)

3. I humbly accept help from other people.

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.” Ecclesiastes 4:9,10 (pg 507)

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.” James 5:16 (pg 932)

Pastor Bill Schroeder—January 30 & 31, 2010

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