

It all starts with God

I Let You be Who you are by the Grace of God

1 Cor 1:4
4 I always
thank my
God for you
and for the
gracious
(grace) gifts
he has given
you, now
that you
belong to
Christ Jesus.
. (NLT)

Resources

Dr. James Richards – How to Stop the Pain.

Craig Hill, Two Fleas and No Dog (available in church book store)

Craig Hill, The Ancient Paths (A resource on how to bless – available in church book store)

Craig Hill, Deceived Who Me, (available in church bookstore)

Hegstrom, Paul PH.D. Angry Men and the Women Who Love Them

Craig Hill, Bondage Broken (Freedom from compulsive habits) (available in church book store)

Application Questions

The roadmap to freedom starts when we admit that we are incapable of true change unless we go to God for help. We all have an intrinsic desire for change. We love the idea that we can change our clothes, cars, houses, jewelry, friends and churches. But there is one thing we cannot change – our character. Only God can change this. Take time this week to reflect on your spiritual journey in the area of judgment. It sounds scary but I promise you the spiritual rewards will be well worth it.

1. Are you stuck in a cycle of judging others? (If we are truly honest we all have to say YES.) In prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to help you identify those whom you have judged. Make a list of names.
2. In prayer, begin to “confess,” your sin of “judgment.” Remember when you judge you are assuming a responsibility given only to God.
3. When you allow someone else to rule your emotional development you are out of control. This means you have an idol in your life other than God. This is commonly called “idolatry.” Repent for giving someone else power over you. Tell God you are deeply sorry for your actions – begin to “repent” (change your mind towards these people). Write down what steps will you take to make this change (repentance produces change).
4. Using the same list of names from # One, ask God to help you to develop habits of blessing and prayer each individual. Write down how you will practically do that this week.
5. Forgive those who have wrongly judged you. This is important! Remember, our motives and acts are also being misjudged by others.

Closing thought: Remember this is not about others, but about what God is doing in you. *To BLAME others for your reactions/ actions is to give them a place of authority reserved only for God. This is IDOLATRY. It's a deceptive scheme of the Devil to keep you locked up in an emotional roller-coaster. WHY? Because as long as the problem is “out there” (others/my spouse) and not in here (my heart), you will not and cannot change because you don't have control over what's out there. But that's the deception – since “what's out there” might never change that leaves you reliant totally on them for your existence – Jesus said - “I am the way the truth and the Life.”*