

# I Love My Addiction

## A Program with a Purpose – Exposing Your Value to God

1 Corinthians 16:15

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### Lesson Twelve

#### A Real Man

##### Replace My Strength with His Might

*For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.* (Ephesians 3:14-21)

1. Paul prayed for the people in Ephesus. There are Christian leaders that will have a desire to help the addicted soul with their spiritual needs.
2. He then gave a quick reminder that the whole world exists because of the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. His prayer request was that God's Spirit would strengthen you from inside out.
4. He then states that faith in Christ and the Gospel is the only way to receive this strength.
5. Paul then wanted the world to know that there is no limit to the help God has for you
6. He stated the true fact that God is able to do way beyond what we can think or ask of Him! There is no limit to what the LORD will do with your life if you trust Him with it!
7. He then identifies the source of the strength – the power that works in us is the power of Christ Jesus, the Risen Saviour! He enters us by faith!

Your old destructive habits and the attacks of Satan are way too strong for you to overcome them in your own power. This is why it is vitally important to allow the Holy Ghost of God to create in you a desire for holiness. When you allow Him to work, you can be filled with the fullness of God; Who is more than capable to defeat Satan and keep you from falling back into your old ways. Notice what verse 20 says, ***Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*** (Ephesians 3:20). He can and will help you fight the daily battles in your mind; if you will allow Him too, ***Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen*** (Jude 24, 25).

Destructive addictions have led people into a place where survival depends totally upon their actions to feed the cravings that rage in their hearts, minds and bodies. I witnessed a young homeless man scavenging cigarette butts from the ground, breaking them apart just to retrieve the remaining tobacco to satisfy his appetite for nicotine. I wondered in my heart if he ever thought that the first puff of a cigarette would take him this low. Of course, the answer to that question is **NO!** You have heard it said many times that, **SIN WILL TAKE YOU FARTHER THAN YOU WANT TO GO, COST YOU MORE THAT YOU WANT TO PAY AND LEAVE YOU LONGER THAN YOU WANT TO STAY!**

***As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him. For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God? It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places. He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms. Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great. Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, that my feet did not slip.*** (Psalm 18:30-36)

When you daily spend time in the book of Psalms, God will remind you over and over that He will take care of you when you yield Him your life. Psalm 18 is loaded with reminders of God's strength and filled with promises for those who yield their lives over to His ways.

1. He is a buckler or a shield to keep the tactics of Satan from attacking you.
2. He is a rock, an unmovable, never changing, always present Saviour.
3. He girdeth us with strength, He robes us with His power

4. He will take the additions away and make you perfect or mature in your new life.
5. He will set you on high places, a good job, a loving family and a member of a good Bible believing church.
6. He will instruct you how to fight against any weapon the enemy has.
7. He also has assured you of eternal security. Jesus gives us the gift of eternal life when we repent and believe the Gospel!
8. We are held up by the gentle, loving hand of God.
9. He will enlarge your steps; you will have a testimony that will be so powerful that many people will come to know Christ as a result of your witness.
10. He will keep you from falling back into sin.

***For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth*** (Psalm 96:5-9). You, my friends, are valuable. God needs you to warn others about the dangers of the sin that has robbed you! God has all the strength He needs to help you with your addictions, but you must submit to His ways in order to give the LORD the opportunity to use His strength to fight for you, ***give unto the LORD glory and strength.***

As you can travel back in the corridors of your mind, you will find yourself having done things that you never dreamed you were capable of doing. Men and women alike have found themselves in the vilest of situations just to gain the funds to satisfy their addictive habits. Do not stay in that part of your memory bank for long; remember, if you have already accepted the free pardon of sin through the Blood of Jesus, your new Master and Instructor, then those sins are gone, gone, gone from the mind of God, ***And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more*** (Hebrews 10:17). Most addicts will need to hit rock bottom before they see the light from above. Notice what our Psalmist said as he cried out to God, ***...forsake me not when my strength faileth.***

You are valuable in the hands of your Creator. As a tool in the mighty hand of the Master Craftsman, through His strength, He will guide you and use you to change those destructive habits

into an addiction to the ministry! It sure is comforting to know that it is the strength of the Almighty God, the One who spoke the world into existence, the One that threw the stars into the heavens, hung them on nothing and gave each one of them a name; He will be the One to make sure you conquer those addictions of the past and thrust you into a new life of liberty and freedom. Then you will have a life that allows you to lead others to your new Master and Instructor! ***And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all*** (Acts 4:33).

This lesson is designed to help you understand that you cannot conquer your destructive addictions without the help of God and His people! Replacing your strength with His will require you to totally rely on His ways and yield to them. As we study this lesson, please realize that it takes a **REAL MAN OR LADY** to live the life of a true Christian. Anybody can run with the crowd, but someone who is willing to take a stand for their new Master, Instructor, God and Source of all their strength, can flex their muscles in the face of the devil and his miserable little, helpless, weakling imps when being tempted and tried! ***Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power: Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people*** (Psalm 65:6, 7).

The devil and his imps cannot stand against the almighty God! I love to remind the demons from Hell this truth whenever they come knocking at my door to try to tempt me; while I am walking on streets of Gold and enjoying the eternal blessing of God, they will be burning in the timeless torments of Hell! Remind them as often as you need or want to! ***I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*** (Philippians 4:13). The key factor is to have a steady diet of God's Word! As you read, you will learn the character of the God who dwells in the heart of the believer. The Scriptures will reveal God's standards of holiness and with your permission, the Holy Ghost will create the desire for holiness in your life.

Always remember, only be concerned with what your Creator and Master thinks about you, for it is He that has the power over your soul, not your old friends and family members, ***And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell*** (Matthew 10:28).

In Mark's Gospel, we find the account of a man who had allowed his destructive additions to rob him of everything and everybody in his life. His rebellious, sinful, addictive lifestyle had taken all of his friends, family and future. He found himself out of his mind, naked and living in a tomb in the graveyard!

***And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, (Mark 5:1-6)***

There are several things that need to be noted about this individual:

1. This young man had many unclean spirits that had led him to the tomb – You have heard it said before, *the devil made me do it*. The truth is, the devil will:
  - a. Tempt you
  - b. Enticed you with his lies – the worst one he will tell you is, that religious stuff is for weaklings!
  - c. Present himself and his ways:
    - i. As a pleasure
    - ii. As Fun
    - iii. That everybody is doing it
    - iv. No one will know
    - v. Just try it once
  - d. Ultimately, the devil cannot not force you into your sinful ways; it always boils down to a choice to either satisfy the flesh or worship the Saviour!
  - e. By allowing Satan’s seduction to lure a lost sinner into his snares, they have opened a door for evil spirits to take up residence dominating their thoughts and actions!

2. No man could bind him – one definition of the word *bind* is, *To constrain by a powerful influence or persuasion* (Noah Webster’s 1828 Dictionary). He continually spiraled downward until there seemed like there was no hope!
  - a. This young man refused wise counsel from anyone
  - b. He continually fell deeper and deeper into his sin
  - c. He found himself in trouble with the law
  - d. He was suffering from the torment of the results of his sin
  
3. Satan had taken him to the point of self-destruction:
  - a. Cutting yourself is an open sign that there is a demon controlling your mind.
  - b. Your body was designed to house the Blessed Holy Ghost, not some wicked demon, ***What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own*** (1 Corinthians 6:19)?
  - c. Evil and good cannot dwell together, ***No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon*** (Matthew 6:24).
    - i. God has allowed you the privilege to choose who you will serve, but you are deceiving yourself if you think that you can act spiritual on Sunday and continue in your sin without any concern of its consequence the rest of the week!
    - ii. God is a jealous God and will not share you with the demons of Hell, ***For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:*** (Exodus 34:14).
    - iii. It is very important that you confess your sin instead of trying to hide it, ***hiding He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy*** (Proverbs 28:13).

- d. We also see this young man crying – tears of grief, ***Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die*** (Proverbs 15:10).
    - i. Tears of sorrow
    - ii. Tears of regret
    - iii. Tears of loneliness
    - iv. Tears of loss
    - v. Also, it was a cry for help
  - e. Cutting and self-destruction often leads to suicide or death by overdose! Cutting is also ritual used in worshipping false gods, ***And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them*** (1 Kings 18:27, 28).
4. Lastly, notice that this young man recognized Jesus as the only source of hope. When He saw Jesus a far off, he ran to Him without hesitation:
- a. The strength of the LORD Jesus allowed this boy to see Him from the tomb where Satan had left him wanting. While he was looking over his hopeless situation, he recognized his Saviour was on the shore! When the maniac met Jesus face to face, He became his new Shepherd; he could now say, ***The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want*** (Psalm 23:1).
  - b. The Saviour came out of His tomb to give us victory over death and our addictions; after hitting rock bottom, the young man in Mark five came out of his tomb to receive forgiveness and freedom!
  - c. The strong hand of the LORD stopped the mouth of the demons long enough for this boy to hear the call his Saviour!

The strength and power Jesus, our Master, Shepherd, Lord and Saviour, has over the sting of death, drew this young addict to come to Him to receive the free pardon of sin! Not only a pardon, but through the strength of the LORD Jesus, he had victory over all of his destructive addictions.

Now, as the story unfolds, you will see what power and strength Jesus has over the all the devils:

***And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, What What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many. And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea*** (Mark 5:7-17).

1. When Jesus came to where the maniac was, the devils recognized Him as God and they knew they were in big trouble – ***What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God?*** Jesus will come to the rescue of anyone who calls!
2. Satan and all the devils know their final destination will be in eternal torment. Satan will not be the ruler over Hell, but he will be an occupant, ***And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophets are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever*** (Revelation 20:10).
3. The devils were called, ***Legion***, because there were so many tormenting this young man. When a door is open to the devil, there is no way to control how many demons will dominate an individual; there were about two thousand in the young man!
4. Jesus gave the devils their request, but I am quite sure He had a good laugh with the hogs could not stand the presence of the demons either, ***and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.***

Now, we will survey the results of this encounter with the Great Shepherd:



***And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine. And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts. And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel*** (Mark 5:15-20).

1. Jesus had made this young man free from every addiction in his life; he was different inside and out:
  - a. He was clothed differently, ***sitting, and clothed*** – when Jesus is your Master your outward appearance will be different, ***Abstain from all appearance of evil*** (1 Thessalonians 5:22).
  - b. He was in his right mind – when Jesus is your Master you will think different, ***and in his right mind***
    - i. He no longer cursed
    - ii. He respected authority
    - iii. He had a desire to learn about the LORD
  - c. He talked different; He was not afraid to tell others about the saving strength of Jesus – ***And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him:*** (Mark 5:20).
2. The freedom from his addictions was so wonderful that this former addict wanted everyone to receive the same gift as he did! All this man did was tell others what Jesus did for him, ***...Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee*** (Mark 5:19). You will find, that God will use your personal testimony to reach many people with the TRUTH! This is the exact reason why you are so valuable to God—He loves your old friends too; it may be your testimony that will cause them to yield to Christ!

Biblical Salvation is simple: believe the virgin birth of God the Son, Jesus; believe He lived a sinless life on the earth; believe He died on the cross for your sins, my sins and the sin of all mankind; believe He rose again after three days in the grave; believe He is alive and now seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven; believe He is coming again; desire to have Him come into your heart and life to forgive you can change you into a good Christian; and then, simply ask Him to forgive you and come into your heart to be your Saviour! That simple! ***For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved,*** (Romans 10:13).

3. The Holy Ghost of God took up residence in this young man's soul and confirmed his salvation, ***In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*** (Ephesians 1:13). The Holy Spirit seals our salvation.
4. Jesus also lives in the heart of the believer, ***That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God*** (Ephesians 3:17-19). When Christ lives in your heart, you are filled with the goodness of God and His strength will help you fight your battles!
5. The former addict now had purpose and passion to tell his friends how to kick the devils out and welcome the Saviour into their lives too, ***And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.***

**JESUS CAME OUT OF HIS TOMB TO RESCUE YOU, NOW YOU COME OUT OF YOUR TOMB TO RECEIVE YOUR TICKET TO FREEDOM!** This young man's testimony and the strength of the resurrection power of God will also draw others to Christ! ***And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto unto me*** (John 12:32). But rest assured, the devil will always do his best to get you back into the destructive ways. Just like this young man, it will boil down to a choice; he chose Jesus all the way! ***For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek*** (Romans 1:16).

Your addictions are no contest for the God of Heaven. The very God that created the world can and will set you free, ***Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:*** (Jeremiah 32:17).

When Jesus arrives on the scene to show His strength, there is **NO CONTEST**, the devil will flee and you will be free!

This is not just some story that was made up and written for our enjoyment. There was a real young man who was really living in a real tomb, possessed by real devils, crying out in despair to a real God, and Jesus heard his cry from across the sea and came to his rescue. He too will hear your cry and set you free—total freedom, total peace and total forgiveness.

These lessons have been developed to help you realize just how bad Jesus needs you. This same account is recorded in the book of Luke. Please notice how Jesus preserved this story for us in the King James Bible; our Good Shepherd put this man to work right after his salvation:

***They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed. Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again. Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee. And he went his way, and published throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him. And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.*** (Luke 8:36-40)

1. There were eyewitnesses that saw the great change in the crazy man's life. You may be the only Bible someone may ever read. **PEOPLE WILL BE WATCHING YOUR LIFE; GIVE THEM A STORY TO TELL!** ***They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed.***
2. This young man was so grateful for all Jesus did for him that all he wanted from then on was to be where Jesus was, ***Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him:***
3. That day would come, but until then, Jesus had a job for him to do. One of the best feelings in life is to feel needed and wanted, ***Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee.*** Jesus knew that someday He would return to the land of the Gadarenes; because He wanted to help, heal and save as many people as He could while He was there, he challenged this young man to go gather the people together to hear.

- a. When the people saw that their heard of hogs had been destroyed, they forced Jesus to leave.
  - b. Others saw the change in the young man and wanted to learn more about Jesus.
  - c. Jesus gave this young former addict a purpose for his life; go and tell!
  - d. His transformation gave him God’s strength to tell others about the love of Jesus and His ability to fight against their addictions too. This young man became a soul winner inviting anyone and everyone to receive Christ too, ***The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise*** (Proverbs 11:30).
4. The results were truly a miracle of God, ***And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.*** When you read the rest of Luke chapter eight, you will see how Jesus turned this young former **addict FROM A MANIAC TO A MISSIONARY!** The people were lined up to meet this man named Jesus that took a rebellious, foul mouthed, drunken, drug addict who was hooked on porn, gambling, cursing and any other addiction that existed in those days, and transformed him into a clean cut, respectful, flaming evangelist that loved to tell sinners about his Saviour—Jesus!

Each person has their own story of what situation their addictions have taken them. Please do not put God in a box; your problems are no match for His strength, ***And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me*** (2 Corinthians 12:9). The word grace has two meanings, first, the free unmerited love and favor of God, second, the spring and source of all the benefits men receive from God. God’s grace will be the spring and source of all the strength you will need from day-to-day to deliver you from your destructive addictions and replace them with an addiction to the ministry—productive addictions. ***Because of his strength will I wait upon thee: for God is my defence*** (Psalm 59:9).

When we allow God to be God, and you choose to be His servant, He will flex His muscles and send the devils running! You are valuable to God and you are needed by God! ***But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble. Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God is my defence, and the God of my mercy*** (Psalm 59:16, 17). God will then give you a platform to bring many sinners to Christ, including friends and family members, ***That ye might walk worthy of the Lord***

***unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;*** (Colossians 1:10, 11).

Replacing your strength with His will transform your life **from a Maniac to a Missionary!**

1. You, my friends, are \_\_\_\_\_. God \_\_\_\_\_ you to warn other about the dangers of the \_\_\_\_\_!
2. What will most addicts need to do before they see the light from above?
3. What should you remind the devils of whenever they come knocking at your door to try to tempt you?
4. Who is the only person that you should be concerned about what they think of you? Quote the Scripture used to back up this thought.
5. What was the first thing about individual in Mark 5:1-6?
6. What is the worst lie the devil will tell you?
7. Cutting yourself is the open sign of what?
8. What happened when Jesus made this young man free from every addiction in his life?
9. Your addictions are no contest for whom? Quote the verse used.
10. Jesus turned this young addict from what into what?

(Answers to these questions are all located within the pages of this lesson)

Regardless of what you have been told or even what you may think, God loves you enough to make you free from your destructive addictions and restore your life to the purpose in which He created you—***Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created*** (Revelation 4:11). By changing your shepherd from self to Jesus, the ***Good Shepherd***, you will begin to bring God the pleasure you were created for. God wants to use you to tell others how to receive the same freedom you now have and introduce lost souls to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. ***Let him know, that***

**he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins** (James 5: 20).

God the Father wants His children to be successful and prosperous, **Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant. And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long** (Psalm 35:27, 28). As you continue to trust in your new Shepherd, Jesus, He will make you prosperous so you can cheerfully, without being ashamed, tell others about His great love—you are valuable in His eyes! **Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee** (Psalm 51:12, 13).

Seek Knowledge

Apply the new-found Knowledge and Wisdom to your life

Then, teach others the secret to your success!

**Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven** (Matthew 5:19).

Memory Verse:

**O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid** (Psalm 86:16).

Suggested reading:

- A chapter of Proverbs each day according to the day of the month
- Five chapters of the book of Psalms each day
- Luke Chapter eight

Model Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for always being there to offer Your strength to help me overcome my old destructive ways! I need Your assistance every day. Please give me the knowledge, wisdom and strength to live my life in a way that pleases You. Give me the strength I need to tell others about my new-found freedom in Christ, the Great Shepherd. I ask all these things in the name of Jesus, Amen!

**Be sure to pass out at least five Gospel tracts this week and invite at least one person to come to class with you next week. Use your past to build your future!**