



DAILY STUDY GUIDE

*The Caring
Congregation*
What to Say When You Don't Know What to Say

Week 3 (November 15): "Dealing with Addiction"
Romans 7:15-19

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Addiction comes in many forms (drug, alcohol, pornography, gambling etc.). Since we don't live life in a bubble, our addictions can affect our relationship with God and others. So as followers of Jesus, how do we live out the great commandment (to love others as Jesus loved us) with those suffering from addiction in our sphere of influence?

Monday: Romans 7:15-19

When Paul said evil came from "sin that lives in me" (verse 17), he wasn't trying to duck responsibility for his actions. It was a vivid way to depict a common human experience: the sense of an inner war, of two opposing principles of action. When have you found yourself determined to change a hurtful pattern, and yet powerfully drawn back to it again?

Tuesday: James 1:9-18

According to these verses, temptation never comes from God, but rather from our innermost wants and desires. Do we always recognize temptation when it strikes? How do you resist temptation? Do you feel guilty when you fall to temptation?

Wednesday: Genesis 2:9, 15-17, 3:1-14

What does "knowledge of good and evil" mean to you? How does the mention of this in the very first Bible story "frame" the whole rest of the narrative? Do you feel that you can clearly discern between right and wrong for yourself and your actions? Can everyone? Was it good or evil that caused Adam and Eve to "finger point"? Which of the three was guilty of doing wrong, Adam, Eve or the snake? What made what they did "wrong"?

Thursday: Romans 6:1-7

Christ's followers through the centuries have wrestled with the paradox that, even as we "walk in newness of life," we still fall short of God's ideal again and again. (Paul himself stated the other side of this paradox in Romans 7:14-25.) In what ways have you seen Christ's gift of new life break the ruling power of sin in your life? What are the ongoing areas of struggle in your life?

Friday: John 13:34-35

The great commandment says we need to love others as Jesus has loved us. How can we show our love for individuals and families struggling with addiction?

MOVING FORWARD

This past Sunday, Pastor Eric interviewed addiction counselor Greg Krausz who gave us insight into dealing with addiction from a Christian perspective. If you did not hear Greg's message, please go to our website at asburylv.org and watch Greg's conversation with Pastor Eric.

NOTE: There are no sermon notes for this week.