



SERMON NOTES

Week 1 August 11, 2024

"Addiction in America" with Greg Krausz

Romans 12:9, 14-16, 20-21; 1 Corinthians 6:12; Mark 12:28-31

I. Introduction

- A. More commonly known as an "addiction," the subject of Voices' message with Greg A. Krausz focuses on _____ disorder.
- B. In 1 Corinthians 6:12, the Apostle Paul reminded the Corinthians that while they had the freedom to do anything, not everything was _____.

II. Factors and Faith

- A. In addition to genetics, _____ conditions can interact with substance use and may increase one's risk of developing an addiction.
- B. While we might be tempted to do otherwise, the Scriptures tell us to overcome evil with _____.
- C. _____ plays a deep role in recovery.

III. Loving Our Neighbors as Ourselves

- A. We need the Holy Spirit's help to discern the best _____'s and _____'s when it comes to helping people get help from substance use.
- B. Fundamental to any help is living out the greatest commandment: "Love God with all [our] heart, soul, and strength and to love our _____ as [ourselves]." (Mark 12:31).

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *August 12-17, 2024*

INTRODUCTION

Gregory A. Krausz offers his insights and experience from 29 years of working in the addiction and mental health counseling field. Mr. Krausz is the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Rehabilitation Services in Bethlehem, PA, Owner of Monocacy Counseling Associates, an Adjunct Faculty member at Moravian Theological Seminary, and a Consultant/Trainer with the Council on Compulsive Gambling of PA. As we seek to live out the commandment to “love our neighbors as ourselves,” let us humbly study the Scriptures and support people in their recovery journeys.

Monday: Luke 18:9-14

One of the greatest obstacles in making a life change is acknowledging there is in fact a problem. A lack of humility or stubborn denial can keep us in a place of suffering longer than we need be. In this parable, Jesus shows us that the application of humility helps justify us before God. How can you humbly come before God today? What steps do you need to take to remove the obstacles before you? Remember that we serve a merciful God who is eager to bring us to a better place.

Tuesday: Mark 14:17-20

Substance abuse and addiction always seem to be a distant reality until we take a sobering look around. It can happen to anyone, regardless of education, wealth, or vocation. As The Twelve gathered to share the Passover meal with Jesus prior to his arrest and crucifixion, they were baffled by the idea that one of them could betray Jesus. Will you ask God to help better see your community and yourself? What new insights have been revealed by the Holy Spirit?

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 12:24b-27

It can be very tempting to dismiss people suffering from addiction as “not our problem.” However, the Scriptures tell us that all of us are part of the body of Christ. Thus, we should take a vested interest in helping others even as we seek to be open to receiving help when we are in need. How might you bless someone today? What do you need to do to be more open to receiving help from others?

Thursday: Psalm 30

One of the most powerful aspects of recovery is hearing the stories of others who have walked a similar path. Knowing others have overcome addictions and keep their sobriety is an essential part of group meetings. For whatever God has seen you through, how do you use your testimony to inspire others to know our merciful and great God? Who can you share your story with today?

Friday: John 21:24-25

As part of the 12-Step program, individuals are encouraged to seek help from a “higher power.” As Jesus’ followers, we identify where our help comes from. As Christ’s witnesses in the world, how will you tell others about Jesus? What aspects of Jesus’ saving grace do you feel most passionate about sharing?

MOVING FORWARD

As Christians we believe that God helps us through all our struggles. While we can feel alone at times, the testimony of others can inspire us as we change our lives. By aiding our brothers and sisters amid their battle with addictions, we can help bring the Kingdom of God a little closer. How can you call upon the Lord for help and, through your testimony, inspire others to know our Savior’s mercy and love?

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) substance abuse, B) beneficial. IIA) mental health, B) good, C) faith. IIIA) do, don’t, B) neighbors.