

Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

Matthew 21:31-32

IN CHRIST, YOU ARE NEW AND FORGIVEN

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,

14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water
I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty
and have to keep coming here to draw water."

16 He told her, "Go, call your
husband and come back."

17 Have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her,
"You are right when you say you have no husband.

18 The fact is, you have
had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband.

What you have just said is quite true."

John 4:13-18

THERE ARE <u>HEALTHY</u>, HAPPY PEOPLE WITH GREAT RELATIONSHIPS THAT BEGAN <u>BADLY</u>

I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. ²⁰When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:19-23

FINDING A NEW PATH

GET SERIOUS

"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery. ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 5:27-30

BECOME A CHRIST FOLLOWER - Embrace Forgiveness

"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. Isaiah 1:18

CHANGE YOUR MIND - Repent

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. ²Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:1-2

AGREE WITH GOD - Confess

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

BREAK THE GRIP OF THE PAST

What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:21-23

- A physical act -- Do what needs to be done
- A mental marker -- Quit telling yourself stories
- **3** A relational union -- Create distance from old flames
- An emotional bond -- Speak truth to lies
- A spiritual act of worship -- Break old covenants

WALK A NEW PATH

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. I Corinthians 6:18

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. Philippians 4:8

NEXT STEPS

RESOURCES
Pure Desire -- Ted Roberts
Dateable -- Justin Lookado
Book of Romance -- Tommy Nelson