

Divine Intervention: Hope and Help for Families of “Addicts”

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Introduction: Ephesians 5:18

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit...

I. Impact on Families

A. One Choice - Noah

1. “Noah was a _____ man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God” (Genesis 6:9)
2. Noah’s _____ to get drunk led to a **CURSE** upon his **GRANDSON** (Canaan) “When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, he said, ‘Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers.’” (Genesis 9:20-27)

B. One Choice - Lot

1. “He rescued _____ Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked” (2 Peter 2:7-8)
2. Lot’s daughters’ _____ to get Lot drunk & his drunkenness led to a **CURSE** upon his **GRANDSONS** (Moabites & Ammonites) “Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day” (Gen. 19:30-38)

C. Far-reaching consequences of sin affects more than the sinner. The Canaanites, Moabites, & Ammonites plagued the Israelites for hundreds of years.

D. Family Dynamics

1. Luke 15:11-32¹
2. Note the _____ of the Father & Both Sons

¹ Shaw, M. *Divine Intervention: Hope and Help for Families of Addicts*. Focus Publishing, Bemidji, MN, 2007.

II. Understanding the Mind of the Addict

A. The “addict” views people as _____

1. Enabler (Accomplice)
2. Obstacle

B. The 5 Mentalities of An Addict

1. **Entitlement** - this person believes they have the right to things that are really gifts and privileges given by God. They think thoughts like “It belongs to me. I own it” and “I deserve better” (opposite of Matthew 22:37-38).
2. **Consumer** - this person destroys, spends wastefully, squanders, uses up things, and thinks thoughts like “I want to spend all of it on myself” (opposite of Matthew 22:39-40).
3. **Victim** – this person believes they have been wronged by another person, have a self-defeating outlook, often blame-shift, and think thoughts like “It’s not my fault” (Ephesians 5:18).
4. **Perishing** - this person has a “woe is me” attitude and thinks thoughts like “Nothing good happens to me” “Why can’t I have...” (opposite of Ephesians 5:19-20).
5. **Rebellious** - this person abhors restrictions unless self-imposed and thinks thoughts like “No one tells me what I can and can’t do” “I can do what I want. I am my own boss” (opposite of Ephesians 5:21).

C. The 5 Marks of a Transforming Addict

1. Be Humble (Matt. 22:37-38)
2. Be Giving (Matt. 22:39-40)
3. Be Responsible/Obedient (Eph. 5:18)
4. Be Grateful (Eph. 5:19-20)
5. Be Submissive (Eph. 5:21)

Put-off	Put-on	Bible Reference
Entitlement	Be Humble	Matt. 22:37-38
Consumer	Be Giving	Matt. 22:39-40
Victim	Be Responsible	Eph. 5:18
Perishing	Be Grateful	Eph. 5:19-20
Rebellious	Be Submissive	Eph. 5:21

III. Your Sanctification

A. Do not neglect the work of biblical prayer.

B. "What the Lord Wants _____ to Learn" as the loved one, family member

**C. Husband-Wife; Wife-Husband; Parent-Child; Child-Parent; Sibling-Sibling;
Pastor-Church Member; Friend-Friend**

D. _____ Thoughts, Words, and Actions

1. "After you ask me multiple times, I give in to you and give you what you want, even when I know it is wrong."
2. "I have worried more about your external appearances than your heart attitudes toward God."
3. "I have failed to rebuke you for fear that you would hate me."

E. Possible Sinful Responses

1. Like Older Brother in Luke 15, do not be _____ if loved one repents
2. Bargaining with God
3. Attempting to _____ the Situation by playing God
4. Giving up on God (Rom. 8:28)

F. Remember that God wants to grant His children _____

1. By _____ – “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.” (Heb. 11:6)
2. God Grants Repentance (Rom. 2:4; 2 Tim 2:25; Acts 11:18)

Ezekiel 18:30-32 “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

Recommended Resources

Shaw, Mark. *Addiction-Proof Parenting: Biblical Prevention Strategies*. Bemidji, MN: Focus Publishing, 2010.

Shaw, Mark. *Divine Intervention: Hope and Help for Families of Addicts*. Bemidji, MN: Focus Publishing, 2008.

Shaw, Mark. *The Heart of Addiction: A Biblical Perspective*, Bemidji, MN: Focus Publishing, 2008. With *The Heart of Addiction Workbook* and *The Heart of Addiction Leader's Guide*. 2013.

Shaw, Mark. *Relapse: Biblical Prevention Strategies*. Bemidji, MN: Focus Publishing, 2011.