Addiction & Recovery

Addiction Behaviors

The need to blame
The stronghold of denial
Emotional and mental manipulation ("head games")
Manifestation of anger (through words or violence)
Chronic lying
Defensiveness
Immoral behaviors (cheating, stealing, sexual, etc.)
Secretiveness
Isolation
Unavailability
Bondage (no longer a choice to use drugs/alcohol)



Addiction Can be Disrupted When

Family and friends set consequences for behavior
Addict is forced to feel ramifications of bad choices
Addict deals with overwhelming loss - nowhere to turn
Addict faces the potential of a marriage loss
Addict faces the potential of a job loss
Addict faces serious health problems
Addict faces serious criminal and legal problems
Addict has a spiritual encounter - conviction by the HolySpirit



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The Recovery Process

Owning responsibility
Facing truth
Understanding and dealing with emotional pain
A willingness to walk in truth
The desire to turn from immorality
Vulnerability and transparency
Honesty
Connection to others
Freedom to make right choices
Freedom to be the person God intended them to be

The Process Involves:

Surrender (Step 1)
Hope (Step 2)
A spiritual awakening (Step 3)
Time to sift and sort through emotional and spiritual issues
Emotional and spiritual maturity
Support from others going through the same thing
Grace - from God, self and others
The separation of behaviors from core identity
Forgiveness - giving and receiving
Embracing identity in Jesus Christ

Recovery Is Interrupted When:

Substance is introduced to system (immediate affect)
Stop working a program (gradual or immediate)
Focus switches to new or difficult relationship (gradual or immediate)
Return to willful immoral lifestyle (gradual or immediate)
Stop being open, honest and transparent (gradual)
Allow bitterness and resentments into heart (gradual)

Leads back to



Requires a new "bottoming out"

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