

LECTURE #24

LIFE-DOMINATING SINS AND TOTAL RESTRUCTURING

INTRODUCTION

- Change is one of the most important daily experiences of the Christian, but also the most difficult.
- We naturally resist change and counselees will resist changes in their lives.
- Yet we need to change in order to be obedient to Jesus Christ (Luke 9:23-24).
- Change begins at the moment we become a Christian.
- As Christian counselors, how can we enable that change?

I. TEACH _____

A. Change is a _____ - _____ process.

Important Principle: You will never be Christ-like if you only get rid of your bad habits. They must be replaced with Christ-like thinking and doing. Habits themselves are not bad, God created us as habitual creatures. But when habits become evil, they must change.

1. Step One: _____

a. _____ of the old life that must be put off:

b. _____ of the old life that must be put off:

2. Step Two: _____

a. _____ of the New Life that must be put on:

b. _____ of the New Life that must be put on:

EXERCISE

1. A liar is no longer a liar when _____ (Eph. 4:25).
2. An angry person is not longer an angry person when _____
_____ (Eph. 4:26-27; Cf. Matt. 5:22-26).
3. A thief is no longer a thief when _____ (Eph. 4:28).
4. A verbally abusive person is no longer an abuse when _____
_____ (Eph. 4:29).
5. A reactive person is no longer a reactive person when _____
_____ (Eph. 4:30 - 5:2).
6. A sexually impure person is no longer impure or greedy when _____
_____ (Eph. 5:3-4).
7. A drunkard is no longer a drunkard when _____
_____ (Eph. 5:18 cf. Col 3:16).

II. TOTAL LIFE RESTRUCTURING

A. Life-dominating sins require _____

Life-dominating sins include drunkenness, homosexuality, drug addiction, physical abuse, unrestrained anger, habitual lying, lusts, masturbation, double-mindedness, stealing...

1. The act of _____ (Matt. 5:27-30)
2. The Christian "must make it _____ (if not impossible) for him to sin the _____.

B. Steps for _____ - _____ restructuring

1. _____
2. An acknowledgment and confession of sin of _____
_____.
3. Fruits appropriate to repentance, such as
 - a) _____ of sin practices and associates
(I Corinthians 15:37)
 - b) _____ of activities, etc.

- c) _____ of the whole life according to
Biblical principles by the power of Christ's Spirit.
 - d) Not allowing ourselves to be " _____ " anymore
(I Corinthians 6:12)
4. The adoption of radically new practices, associates, activities, schedules that will enhance or facilitate living a _____ - _____ way of life.