

We are all screwed up!

By: Rob Perez

Does this statement surprise you?

It shouldn't.

The human condition apart from a relationship with the one true biblical God has been trying to figure out a way to exist without needing Him since the garden of eden. Christians who claim a personal relationship with Christ likewise try from time to time to find ways to exist apart from God.

Ahhhh the compartmental boxes we all carry around huh? Are they getting heavy yet?

The ways we can try to exist apart from God are many. They can be as (what we would consider) benign as a continuous shopping compulsion or as serious as full blown addictions of any variety.

In my own walk with the Lord I too have tried the "my way" highway. I have made many mistakes that still plague me to this day. To think about how stupid I was or how thoughtless only sets in my mind a resolve to never return to that behavior that took me so far away from my Lord. The funny thing about it is the "my way" highway is usually a very short run until you hit a problem. The road isn't a long one but it can become a road that we keep adding onto.

If we really think about it ... all of us are nothing more than one big pack of hurting children. Dealing with different things and trying to overcome them. One person's sin or history is no better or worse than my own, and mine being no better off than anyone else's.

The book of Hebrews tells us to help each other... "to bear one another's burdens". Not to enable each other but to help each other in genuine love and concern for the ultimate "eternal wellbeing" of those God puts in our circle.

Pride and arrogance are tools the devil uses to foster in our minds a caste system of who is better or worse off than we are. With that comes apathy and hatred towards one another. Even within our own churches this ugly monster rears its head and we find brothers and sisters in the Lord looking at each other with less than empathetic eyes.

This is a real issue to overcome both within the church and in our culture. We feast on a person's demise. We love watching reality shows that depict a person "having it all" and then losing it. Why is that? Does it make us feel better about ourselves?

To those of you reading this that may not be in an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ please know that all of us Christians are just as screwed up as you are... the only difference is we as followers of Jesus have a roadmap that shows us a path to getting our stuff together. That roadmap for us is the bible. The word of God frees us from those chains we carry around. We now see our "screwed up selves" through a set of eternal goggles. Through God's word we get to see ourselves through God's eyes. We never forget those sins we have done but we come to understand the reason why we fell to them and more importantly we learn how to overcome them and live a life filled with a victory that Christ provided for us and wants to live through us from the cross.

For those of you reading this that are followers of Christ,,, its time to get your apathetic head out of your butt and quit looking down on anyone like your (our) stuff doesn't stink. Because it does....

All of us deal with issues that need the light, healing and restoration from a just and loving Lord in Jesus Christ.

We need to engage the charge given to us in Hebrews.... because...

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