

MESSAGE NOTES
The Road to Recovery
MAKING CHANGES
Pastor Brian Miller

R.E.C.O.V.E.R.Y

PRINCIPLE 1: *Realize I'm not God; I admit I'm powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and my life is unmanageable.*

PRINCIPLE 2: *Earnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to Him, and that He has the power to help me recover.*

PRINCIPLE 3: *Consciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.*

PRINCIPLE 4: *Openly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.*

PRINCIPLE 5: Voluntarily submit to **EVERY CHANGE** God wants to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my **CHARACTER DEFECTS**.

"Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires." Matthew 5:6

WHERE DO MY CHARACTER DEFECTS COME FROM?

1. Some come from **MY GENETICS**.
2. Some come from **MY CIRCUMSTANCES**.
3. Some come from **MY CHOICES**.

WHY IS IT SO HARD TO CHANGE THEM?

1. Because I've had them for a **LONG TIME**.
2. Because they are part of **MY IDENTITY**.
3. Because they have a **PAYOFF**.

HOW CAN I ALLOW GOD TO REMOVE MY CHARACTER DEFECTS?

1. **FAITHFULLY PRAY** every day for change.

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." Matthew 21:22

2. **RELEASE CONTROL** of my life to God.

"Teach me to do what you want, because you are my God. Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground." Psalm 143:10 NCV

3. Focus on victory **ONE DAY AT A TIME**.

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34

4. **ACCEPT** the changes He makes.

"So then, have your minds ready for action. Keep alert and set your hope completely on the blessing which will be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Be obedient to God, and do not allow your lives to be shaped by those desires you had when you were still ignorant." 1 Peter 1:13-14 GNT

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." James 4:10

5. Pursue **PROGRESS** not **PERFECTION**.

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." Philippians 1:6

ACTION STEPS:

**All scriptures are in the NIV unless otherwise noted.*