**Rebellion and Addictions**

A friend was once a prostitute, took drugs, and used alcohol. Some say, "Once an alcoholic, always an alcoholic/ ' or "Once a drug addict, always a drug addict." No. Once she repented,

broke the covenants with her past sexual partners, and was delivered from the spirit of rebellion, she was free. God purified her. She is a new creation.

Addictions stem from rebellion. They take the place of God in a person's life and violate the physical body, which is:

... *the temple of the Holy Spirit who* is *in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Whether the addiction is alcohol, drugs, food, tobacco, sex, video games, or shopping, compulsive addictions distract our focus and energy away from God, our spouses, our children, and our responsibilities. The enemy uses subtle ways to destroy us and keep us from doing God's will. Slowly, but surely, these addictions have devastating effects on mental and physical health, well-being, and relationships.

Addictions are innately a form of selfishness. People in bondage to addictions live for the fleeting temporary pleasure they experience. Destructive addictions such as drugs and alcohol sicken or kill you. Promiscuous sex not only can transmit deadly diseases, but it also destroys the foundation of marriage and family life. A more modern form of compulsion is Internet addiction. In South Korea, a growing number of adults and up to 30 percent of children under 18 are at risk; some have even died of exhaustion because they could not tear themselves away from the Web.1 Who do you think is behind such addictions? Jesus said:

*The thief* [devil] *does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I* [Jesus] *have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly* (John 10:10).

Sometimes people turn to drugs or alcohol to numb the pain of a previous traumatic event in their lives, so prayer for those individuals should address trauma, fear, and pain. Once the causative issue is taken care of, the substance abuse is handled also.

Since the root of addiction is rebellion against God, repentance is the first step to being set free. If you have broken an addiction or other bad habit, yet you struggle with a desire to return to it again, the root of rebellion has not been destroyed.

**Prayer Against Addiction**

***Father, I confess my addiction to and I ask Your forgiveness for this sin. I repent of\_\_\_\_\_\_*. *Cut my addiction to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from me now, in Jesus' name. I break its power over me and I put it on Your altar, never to return, in Jesus' name. I curse the spirit of trauma and fear, and I command all pain to leave, in Jesus' name. Father, I receive healing to* (name any part of your body or mind that has been affected by the addiction) *and I receive Your peace, in Jesus' name. Thank You, Jesus.***

**Addiction to Medications**

Many people take medications prescribed by their physician. Occasionally, the body

becomes dependent on a certain drug such as a pain medication. Pain from arthritic changes

or deformities, back injuries, nerve injuries, or chronic headaches can seriously jeopardize a person's well-being as well as activity levels. Pain medications may have kept them functioning and comfortable for years. Without realizing it, a person unintentionally becomes addicted to that substance. You will pray for his or her total healing and freedom from the drugs; however, never tell someone to stop any prescribed medication. Caution the person to continue all medications until a physician gives permission to discontinue them. The doctor will decide when to change or stop a prescription drug. Removing the drugs too fast can cause serious problems.

Keep in mind, a documented healing becomes a strong witness to the doctor as well as to

others. Doctors are often amazed that a miraculous healing has occurred after prayer.

**Prayer Against Addiction to Medications**

***Father, thank You that You have healed me (or the person you are praying for). I curse any***

***Addictions to prescription medicine and I command all side effects to go, in Jesus' name.***

***Thank You, Jesus.***