

I am so weak, God. But You promised me
that Your power is made perfect in
weakness, that Your grace is all I need.
Here, God. I put my weakness in Your
hands. Use it however You want.
May Your grace fill my life.



Prayers for Difficult Times
Barbour Publishing

Addiction



*It is for freedom that Christ has set us
free. Stand firm, then, and do not let
yourselves be burdened again by a yoke
of slavery.*

Galatians 5:1 NIV

Lord, You know I want to change. And yet again and again, I fall back to the same addictive behaviors. I get so discouraged with myself. Thank You, Lord, that You are never discouraged with me. You are always waiting to give me one more chance.



Father, I can't do this without support. Show me where I should turn. Lead me to the right counselor, the right group, the right program. I want to change. Show me how.



Jesus, in the Gospels You said that if I want to be Your follower, I have to be willing to take up my cross each day and then walk in Your footsteps. I claim this addiction as the cross I carry. I pick it up in Your name. I may never be free of it. But I believe You have a plan for my life, and I know You will give me the strength to carry it.

Addiction is a form of slavery. It makes us need a specific substance or activity to get through life— to the point that our need is a compulsion that overpowers our other responsibilities and relationships and even our health. We may not realize how big the problem is, but sooner or later, we wake up to the fact that addiction has become the master.

No matter what we believe intellectually about God, addiction becomes our real god. We no longer rely on the creator of the universe for help with life's challenges. Instead, we cannot face stress or sorrow, weariness or anger, without turning to our addiction.

But God wants to set us free. Jesus came to break the bonds of slavery—including the slavery of addiction!

I can't change the people I love, God, no matter how much I love them. Only You can do that. You know how much this addiction in my loved one's life hurts me, how much I wish I could do something, how helpless I feel. I give my feelings to You. I give my loved one to You. I trust You to bring Your healing power to my loved one's life.



I know that the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous requires a "searching and fearless moral inventory." It's hard for me to undertake such a terrifying task. I'd rather not look at who and what I am. But, Lord, You also ask me to examine my ways and test them, so that I can truly return to Your presence. So give me the strength and courage I need. I am ready to be obedient to Your will.