

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/25/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
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Everything you think you know about addiction is wrong!

Jonathan Hari - TED Talks

Which Addict Are You?

- "Techno-Junky": all your spare time on technology
- "The Day-Planner": all your time making/executing plans
- "Mommy Dearest": all your time focused on your kids
- "Trophy Spouse": all your time trying to please your spouse
- "American Idol": all your time building your personal brand

Which Addict Are You?

- "The Sex Addict": all your time spent thinking about sex
- "The Swindler": all your time spent manipulating others
- "The Conspirator": all your time on conspiracy theories
- "The Overachiever": all your time climbing everything
- "The Emperor": all your time chasing worldly prosperity

What's Missing

Humans were born to connect with their Creator. Everything else is a subsequent development. Without that baseline connection, man searches to exhaustion, changing addictions like seasons.

Balance Statement

Grace and love have two sides, both an encouraging (do what's right!) side and a discouraging (don't do what's wrong!) side. So addicts shall not be enabled, either - that's not love, that's a perversion.

Religious people make awful ambassadors for Christ!

Ro 1:17

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

First Things First

If you try to understand Christ's heart through a worldly lens, you will remain confused your whole life. The Word is meant to provide you with divine vision. AFTER your "eye is clear" (Lk 11:34), divine perspective is possible.

"Choose Your Poison"

The more socially acceptable addictions (eg: wealth, idolatry, etc.) are in many ways worse addictions than many others. Institutionalized addictions are given power to judge and scorn the "uglier" ones. In some ways the prior is more difficult to overcome than the latter.

Connection Implies Sanctification

Disconnected people are not sanctified. Christ, Himself, was very social (doesn't imply extroversion), even though His "circle of friends" was relatively small, given the size of His ministry. (Jn 17:19)

Connection Implies Sanctification

Connect with Jesus. Pray with Him. Open your Bible and drink Him, consume Him (Jn 6:53-58). Watch as the Word washes over you and delivers you from your recurring lusts.

"One Day At A Time"

Joe Walsh