

Our Relationship With God Is Worth The Struggle

11th step - Lesson 4

Luke 12:31—"But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well."

Genesis 32:28—"Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."

Isaiah 62:6-7—You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth.

Psalms 13:1—How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

"Denny said, 'I wish to be introduced to the person that does not in some way or other, spiritually struggle.' I agree. What can I say? Jesus is my very best friend. I talk about him like I talk about my family and friends. He's always with me - no matter what's happening in my life; He loves me. AND, I struggle. I don't think there is a Christian alive who does not struggle in life with their relationship with God. I would call someone who claimed that to be either in denial or a liar. Seriously! Good relationships are about trust. There's not a person living who has ever trusted Jesus Christ with their 'whole heart, soul and mind' at all times and in all situations. I firmly believe whenever I DO trust God in a bad situation it's because HE put that trust in my heart. In and of myself I do not possess that kind of love and trust and energy!" – from the E-Metro forum

Step 11: We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out.

Our drugs and our dependencies gave us a fairly uncomplicated relationship: You took your drug, you got your buzz. Very predictable.

But those things turned on us, and we went to God for help. And he's giving it to us. But a relationship with God is way more complex than a relationship with a drug. And it can be very unpredictable.

In some ways, our relationship with God is actually very simple:

Luke 12:32—"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom."

- God promises to love you and forgive you
- Jesus completely took care of our failures when he lived a perfect life in our place and died on the cross in our place
- What else is simple about your relationship with God?

In other ways, our relationship with God can be complex and puzzling and frustrating. How have you experienced this?

Have you ever tried to reduce your relationship with God to something as simple as your relationship with your drug was?

What happens when you go ahead and struggle in your relationship with God?