

## Third Step: What Do You Have To Lose?

3<sup>rd</sup> Step - Lesson 14

Mark 8:34-37 -- Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life [ or "save his soul"] will lose it, but whoever loses his life [or "loses his soul"] for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Hebrews 2:14-15 -- ...by his death he [destroyed] him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – and frees those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Exodus 5:6-8 -- That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and foremen in charge of the people: "You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don't reduce the quota."

*[Am I thinking that God will be like Pharaoh, and demand stuff from me that I can't produce?]*

2 Corinthians 8:12 -- For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

### **3rd Step -- We made a decision to turn our will and our life over to the care of God as we understood him.**

- What are the things you are scared to death of losing? ("If I had to live without \_\_\_\_\_ it would kill me")?
- What fears do you have about what God will demand from you when you decide to "turn your will and your life over" to him? (Your real feelings? Your goals and ambitions? Your fun? Your leisure time? Your style?)
- In Mark 8 Jesus is saying that God not only loves and forgives you, he *likes* and *respects* you: he wants your soul, your true self, saved forever. How does that change the way you look at the Third Step?

What have you seen and experienced as you and others turn your will and