

## Staying Away From “Wet Places And Wet People”

### Lesson 9

The things that have made our lives crazy – like drugs and alcohol – didn’t come out of nowhere. Usually we had to make the choice to go *someplace* (like a liquor store) and be with *somebody* (like a drinking buddy) to make it happen.

God is rescuing us from the insanity that used to run our lives. He wants us to live in his love and grace, and to experience the healing and peace that comes from living in his love. And we want to work with him to make it happen. That means doing what it takes to keep people, places and things from bringing the craziness back into our lives.

**Matthew 18:7-9—“Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come! If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.”**

**Matthew 19:29—“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.”**

What are some of the challenges involved in staying away from “wet places and wet people”?

- These people may be family members and good friends
- You don’t want people to think you’re disrespecting them
- There are bars, liquor stores or dope houses near where you live
- You’re used to going to bars just to hang out and talk with people
- Alcohol shows up in a lot of social activities, like dances, bowling, etc.
- Getting blindsided (for instance, going to a church picnic and finding out there’s beer there)
- What else?

What can help you with these challenges?

- Finding sober people and places (AA, Bible study groups, etc.)
- Talking with God and with sponsors before going somewhere you're not sure of
- Being honest about your addiction as much as you can with as many people as you can trust with this information
- Actually giving up valuable friendships when you have to
- Not expecting everyone to understand and support you
- Finding stuff to do that feels as good and exciting, but won't involve drinking or getting high or other insanity
- What else?