

## Champions for the Addicted: A Message from Nick Vujicic

<https://youtu.be/BdFo3to-BsU>

35:14

Well, hello there, I'm so excited to share a message with you that desperately, I believe, needs to be heard. In this hour, no matter who you are, no matter where you're from, no matter what age you're at. This month Champions for the Brokenhearted focused on addiction. Many topics throughout 2022, we've covered each month's topic kind of carries a certain stigma. But let me tell you, addiction, especially is one that has caused a lot of confusion within the church walls, actually pushing out the very people God sent in to hear about his love and redeeming power.

Listen straight up, if you're struggling with an addiction, I want you to know that this message, you gotta listen to the whole thing. Second of all, God loves you, and He wants to speak to you today. If you're not already seeking help, I pray that today, you would have the courage and the conviction to make that step. You are not meant to walk this road alone. And you do need to surround yourself with people around you to walk along this journey. But let's talk about your heart.

Let's first define in maybe a way that no one's ever defined addiction. Could it be that a definition from God's point of view may be using His kind of view and frame of addiction is a repeated sin in your life, that is in the forefront of your mind, whether it is based on the fact that you're a human being with a sinful nature, whether that is in your mind, because of the genetics of your mum or dad, which in some cases, scientifically, our genes do play a role on some very minor role.

But 95% of this is really understanding on a spiritual sense, that 95% is our determination with the power of the Holy Spirit, within that wrestle to break through our addiction. I love Apostle Paul and all of his writings, in fact, but Romans 7, "a wretched man I am for I do what I know I ought not to do, and I don't do what I ought to and know to do." And in this wrestle, the first thing that we must understand is we are a recovering human being.

You ever know that? What are you recovering from being a human being, to understand that Jesus didn't come for the well. He came for the sick. He came for the broken. He came for the sinners, and that's all of us. Jesus died for all the world that if you do believe that Jesus died for you, and rose again, the first being of a breakthrough that you actually experienced is your soul, your soul to be saved. We are made of a soul, spirit, mind, body. Some people don't maybe define it that way. But when you first realize that you're a sinner, broken in your own sin, and your future plans and the ability to plan what you think would be a great life, in your own strength in this temporary life, you quickly find out that you actually are a broken human being—and without God, you're not going to recover. You will remain broken, you remain alone, addicted, afflicted, without God's help. That's what Scripture says because it's more than a mindset. It's more than just, "oh, I can do it." It is no, there is a spiritual aspect of our existence and the existence of the spiritual realm in the world where there are angels and demons fighting for your soul and without God, Scripture says we can do nothing.

Anything good that you see in Nick is only because of God is not all day go day. Great attitude, man. No, it started with my soul being rescued, held in the hands of God, redeemed and now formed into a

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new creation. What does that even mean? When you get saved, you then don't live in sin, you repent of your sin, you walk away from what you know is sin. You also lay down your plans that you have that if I can just get to this point, then I'll be happy, so that God doesn't want you happy, but it's the shift and reframing from understanding that anything that I build now in my life that is not built according to Scripture that is not built as a house on a rock, I'm going to be building my state of happiness on sand.

We all know what happens to the man who builds a house on sand. And we all know the wise person who would knowledge understanding that Jesus is Lord, to then build your house upon the rock Jesus Christ. Now, for me, though, knowing all of this, I know that sounds preachy, but bear with me for a second, I knew that I needed rescuing. I knew that in my own strength, I continue to do what I know I shouldn't be doing. And I don't do what I know I ought to be doing. And that was a huge reason as to why I actually gave my life to Jesus Christ at 15 years of age, but didn't tell anybody for two years. Did you know that I'm the evangelist preaching the Gospel to the world, by the grace of God, only in Him through Him, for Him as His hands and feet, standing in front of the gates of hell redirecting traffic, but when I first gave my life to Jesus, I didn't tell anybody?

Do you want to know why? Because I was in a church at that time that was quite conservative, wherein there was this process that okay, when someone says they have dedicated their life to Jesus Christ, it almost felt like within that church within that denomination that I was raised in, you kind of like kind of gotta be ready for people to now just look at you, and watch you and hear you, and really see if you have really given your life to Jesus Christ, how you live, how you talk, how you stand, how you grow in your knowledge of Scripture, how you live your life.

There was a process in that church that was like, "Well, I don't want to be putting that microscope yet because I don't feel like I'm really, really ready. You know, the F-bomb might come out of my mouth. I might still deal with wanting to see pornography. I might still be a person at that time where I might say something or do something that's not exactly righteous." Even if that means laughing when I hear someone gossiping about someone else, or I learn that my Christian friends are having sex, and I don't correct them. So it's almost like I knew what was right to do and knew what was wrong to do. And I was afraid of even like, "Well, what about my own struggles?"

So in our own mind, first of all, you need to understand that an addiction isn't just a window of, "Well, I'm addicted to drugs, or I'm addicted to pornography." Now, some of you are addicted to Facebook, and Instagram, and this this subliminal idol that you worship that you don't even know and even put on as a name of the God that you're worshipping is, "I wonder how many likes I'm gonna get. Let me do this and let me do that. So the more people can like me and then share what I've got to do, and blah, blah, blah, blah, blah." And this is pressure to be on a platform that everyone else is on pressure to even post and be like someone else. That's an addiction. Number one commandment, "Love the Lord with all your heart, mind, soul and strength." Number two, "You should not bow down to other idols in worship. I am the

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Lord your God.” So even in our mind, you know, money can become an addiction, the idea of money, the idea of a good job.

This is a mind game that goes way beyond, when your brain goes to something. When I say addiction, well, I don't have any addiction. Yeah, even sexual, immoral tendencies that we have, as human beings, that some of us even were abused, age 4-5-6, that then got us in an addiction of pornography that then played with our mindset of what sex is and intimacy within marriage. It's not just this or that. That's what I want you to know. And when you turn away from sin, and you don't want to sin, that's where it starts, I desire to have a life set apart from the world. I choose today to ask God, to be commander over my life, a master of me, I'm a slave unto him, I choose to be a servant unto God.

I would rather be a servant of the Most High God, forgiven of my sin, free of the lies that any of this stuff in the world can actually either help fill a void that I'm experiencing, or give me some kind of high in attaining success or some joy or purpose in this dark world. When you choose to walk away from that and you say, “I choose Jesus. I choose and I believe that heaven Israel, I choose it. I believe that my strength is not enough. I choose and I believe to believe that my friends without Jesus, I know they're not really happy. I mean, they look happy, they got this, they got that, but they don't know where their souls going after they're dead.”

Why your happiness? Well, let me tell you, it ain't about the mindset and positivity. How can you not be positive? When the battle is done, the war is over. I'm getting ready myself. Someone dead ain't complaining about what they're entitled to. I am an empty vessel. I chose to empty myself and ask the Holy Spirit to fill me with his purpose, with his strength, and the design of His plan for my life while I am here, until I go home. And until I go home, I get to pray and seek His will without seeing Him. It makes it more fun, actually.

It actually is the epiphany of our faith journey with God when you don't see Him, when you don't hear Him, when you don't feel Him, when you know that you don't have the strength to have your own breakthroughs because if He can't break through in the Spirit, you ain't breaking through in the natural. It's the supernatural breakthrough. How does that happen? Not by giving money to church, not by going to church, by getting on your knees and repenting and saying, “God, I know that what I am right now. It's not enough. Can't go to heaven. But I want it. And I want you this joy that the world can give me not enough fake joy, fake peace.” Friendships where I put faith in where that friendship gives me the peace and comfort and identity because of friends and the world's acceptance on me. Or even Christians for that matter. No. You read your Bible.

You're fearfully and wonderfully made. You're a recovering human being and when you ask the Holy Spirit in you, God's going to complete what He started, Philippians 1:6. Next, being confident of this, “He began a good work in you,”—work completed until the day Jesus Christ, guess what? Until I'm six feet under baby, I'm still under construction. So as your pastor, so the Pope and your vision and your pre

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priest no one saints, saints. Apostle Paul says, way dumb PCs, you know the stuff that comes out through your tests on through your calling every single day and it smells and it's yucky.

And if you eat it, you could die. That's what we are crap compared to him, yet he turns his face to us as His own children, saying, "Hey, let me adopt you into my family of God. You think you're alright? But man, let me tell you, you think you're pretty strong, and you've got your goals set. Let me tell you, My son, Jesus, He died for you. The peace and purpose and understanding of My perfect will, will come if you knock on the door and seek Me, you will find Me.

I love that verse where it says, "Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." That's exactly what you're looking for—rest. And I want you to know that if you're battling an addiction, you know, even lying is an addiction. I actually used to have an addiction to lying to when I was a teenager, I would just say stuff that was not true. Because well, I kind of want to make my lifestyle a little bit more cool or something. And so these addictions, no matter what your addictions are, I want you to know that God wants you to know that your life matters.

You see, you've maybe even spent years feeling rejected, cast aside by other people. You know, when you have a sin, the first thing that that comes to you is guilt. Guilt is not a bad thing. Guilt is a gift given by the Holy Spirit, to know when something is wrong. Now, at that point, you have a choice to either see the fruit of that guilt, then bringing you shame, give you a decision to say, "Am I going to stay here and do it again? Or will I use that guilt, allow God to soften my heart, beg for his forgiveness?" Now that you have to beg for forgiveness, you asked for forgiveness, but believe mercy and strength to actually not do it again. Now when you ask God to forgive you of your sin, then shame doesn't stay. It's the shame my friends that debilitate us and disable us more than anything.

You're going to first of all, appreciate and accept you're always going to be a recovering human being. You're always going to sin. Your daily sin, no matter what it is, you're never going to be perfect, but to hunger and strive for that righteousness is the decision to turn away from sin and live for the Lord.

And it's in His power, in His mind that you pray and you ask for strength. If that then doesn't break the sin cycle again, the repetitive sin that you're in, that you do want to walk away from, but you haven't broken through in, then I encourage you to tell someone. Have them pray for you. Now when you tell someone and they pray for you, and it's still not breaking, the third thing I can tell you is then what I did was I started actually fasting.

You know in the Bible, it says that you can pray, but man, some principalities and powers of darkness are never broken without fasting. Now, if you have done all this and you're still in this addiction to sin, that sick cycle of sinning, then maybe some of us need to just sit down and really talk to someone on an expansive level to a professional Christian counselor, whose expertise is helping us to become aware of

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what's going on, to talk through what's going on, and to even maybe define other things that we are doing, or setting up as ourselves in our daily life to then fall again into sin.

For instance, if you're addicted to Facebook, stop it. Just turn it off. If you can't try, stop it for three days. Get accountability partners. Maybe ask your parents to take away your phone for a bit—take away your iPad for a bit on these things. It's almost like, “Well, what about the people that you're hanging around that actually then get you in that cycle of drinking, get you in that momentum of, “Oh, yeah, I'll just do one. Oh, yeah, I'll try this drug. Oh, it's not cocaine. Let's smoke pot.”

And it's those people maybe that you need to cut out of your life. And it's that cycle that can actually then maybe even come to a point of saying, “You know what, I think I just need to go to some kind of getaway rehab program, whether that's Teen Challenge for addiction to like absolutely break that cycle. And then there are some people who break the addiction. But that doesn't mean that there are no tendencies to want to drink. It doesn't mean that you won't have feelings of that sinful nature come back or tempt you. You may have that tendency to fall in that sin for the rest of your life. But with these things that I'm sharing with you and the community of people around you, that when you do have the tendency to sin, that you still can bear that temptation and break through that sin.

This is the depth of depths of not just philosophy, doctrine, but simplicity of God's Word. He gives you the power to overcome the sin. It doesn't mean that you don't feel to sin because every human feels the sin. So they're in breaking through from being born in a baby spiritual sense, where you're sucking on formula, you're not eating a steak, as you then go from formula food to mushy food, to then solids to then a big steak in spiritual aspects. I've been growing with the Lord since age 15. I'm 39 years old, okay.

I've been preaching the Gospel and reading my Bible out a lot since age 19. Talk about being mature in your faith, growing in your faith, growing in the knowledge of the understanding of the Word, and God's perfect plan for you. And if you ain't getting that maturity, and that meat from your church time, make that an excuse. Read your Bible, spend some time with God. Some of you are using the excuse of your church.

Well, my church and given my pastor the worship this that COVID Whatever, dude, get on your knees and get right with God, it is time to surrender and say, “God, I even forgive the Christians who actually made me feel the shame to the point that I can't even tell them.” You know, what really should happen in every single church, in my opinion, not Alcoholics Anonymous exposed. Recovered alcoholics have Christians exposed, recovered point of pornographic addicted people in the church.

So groups that say, “Yes, I had an abortion, just like you did and I went through PTSD. And I was drowning in shame. But now I'm here to say what the enemy tried to do so bad, God can turn into good, same thing for you. What if you've gone through this addiction, so that you can find redemption, full

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healing community to then help someone else break their addiction to your story is no less important or powerful than mine?

When Jesus grabs a hold of your life, and you know that you're struggling with something, He's not just going to redeem you, He's not just going to heal you. It's not going to just help you forgive the people who actually judged you and made you feel more shame. He's going to set you free and actually be a beacon of light for someone else who's going through that. That's not Jesus. I want you to know that maybe men have disqualified you, but God has not disqualified you.

Addiction is not your destiny.

God has a plan for your life and he wants to set you free. You might feel like you have no strength in this battle. But I want you to know Jesus is ready to meet you exactly where you're at. Maybe you've done some things that you think God would never forgive.

But I want you to show you right now, that is not possible. God wants you to know that he that even when you were at your lowest point, maybe that's today, but it may be it's not at your lowest point. He was still with you. He has not given up on you. He loves you. He doesn't condemn you. He cares for you. He is pursuing you. He made sure that you're watching this very video. He's gentle, he's humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. That's what Matthew 11 says.

It's only by the blood of Jesus that has the power to break every yoke and bondage and open up those prison bars of your captivity. God does not define you by your problems or mistakes. No, he loves you. He looks into your heart. King David was far from perfect. He even committed murder. Your God called him a man after his heart. Paul was a violent man, a persecutor of Christians. Yet Jesus called him His chosen instrument. Don't try to clean up before you ask Jesus to come into your life. He has come for the broken. He has come for the weary, and He's come to help fix you one day at a time in your journey as he continues to perfect you.

Even when we were dead in sin, God made us alive with Christ. And he's going to give you all the power to transform your life. When you feel weak, that's okay. That's when God shows up in that weakness and that gap that He can show off. He doesn't want you to do this alone. His grace is sufficient. His strength is made perfect in your weakness.

And He's here to help you right now. And all we got to do is surrender. He says, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will take out your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Isaiah 36:26). He can turn all around for good. There might be pain, but I want to encourage you to persevere. I want you to know that this last verse in John 16:33 says, "In this world, you will have trouble. But take courage because I've overcome the world." You become more than a conqueror because Jesus already conquered death.



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Jesus already conquered sin. Jesus already conquered the devil face to face and holds the keys of how itself so don't grow weary. Keep on going. And I want you to know that if you're still looking for that purpose filled life, man, I honestly think that so many people have been thinking of committing suicide, attempted suicide, not just because of the shame of the addiction that they're in, but because you can't imagine your life outside of this prison. You can't imagine your life outside of this prison that says, There is no purpose for you. There is no value of your life, no one will miss you. Get out of that prison of lives. You do matter. God has a plan for you. And you don't have to stay in this prison, there is a greater purpose. Call upon him. Get that new life. Pray. Pray with me.

Dear God, come to you today. And then come to the end of myself. My strength, my plans, my obsession with growing in knowledge and morality. I need you. God rescue saved me from the biggest problem which is death and sin. Jesus, thank you, that you did die on the cross. For my sins. You rose again. i Today confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of all. Thank You, God, that You love me, that You have a plan for me. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for helping me know what's wrong. Help me, God, to feel that conviction if I am nothing.

Teach me Your Word. The Bible, the promises, God. I give You my life. Fill me with your Holy Spirit. I ask that I could be your servant. You be my Master.

I want the plans You have for me. I want the joy you have for me. I want the peace that you have for me. And I need your strength today. Give me faith to know you with me that you will never leave me. Teach me how to pray. God, I pray for my addictions right now. God break these chains in Jesus name right now. I don't want it anymore. And I turn away from all of that. And I'm now here at your feet. So God helped me. Even if there will be times where I struggle with temptation to fall back into sin, give me wisdom. Give me strength carry me through.

God, I want Your life for me. So help me each and every day. Fill me with your peace. In Jesus name. I pray. Amen. I want you to know that if you just said that prayer, becoming a believer in Jesus Christ is just the first step in your journey. have a relationship with him. It's not about going to church lighting some candles twice a year. It's a friendship. It's you reading the Bible. Make sure you go to a church that actually only reads the Bible. I want you to know, it's really important to have that relationship with Jesus Christ and Jesus being the priest, you can go directly to God.

I want you to know that the Holy Spirit will continue to be with you. I didn't know what you needed to hear, but he did. And I want to just encourage you on behalf of our ministry of Life Without Limbs that if you did just receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, I want to send to you seven videos over the next Seven days as a free gift from us to you. And I want you to know you can't find these on the internet. But these videos will actually help take your next steps in your new relationship with Jesus Christ. If you get your phone out, just text the word Jesus to the number 51237. The number is 51237.

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And the word that you text is Jesus. I want to encourage you again, if you are not already seeking help, in your addiction, please make a step today. And let me let me tell you, there's a lot of places you can go for recovering support. Adult and Teen Challenge is one that we would like to suggest to you specifically worldwide there in many, many countries. And we've provided a link below and a phone number you can actually call right now. Do not hesitate, reach out, call someone talk to someone right now. And may God give you the courage to make that first step. We love you and we're praying for you for everyone watching, and you only watch this part of the segment of the month of the campaign, the addicted the brokenhearted series, please go check out some incredible interviews and other pieces of video content.

And for those of you watching some of these, but you haven't watched them all, go back, watch them all. And know that your financial support and your prayers are the only way we can continue to do these types of segments. So thank you for a monthly consideration to support Life Without Limbs as we continue to do Champions for the Brokenhearted. I love you so much. God bless you. We'll see you next time.