

## ***Love Lifted Me Recovery Three Magic Words – Honesty, Forgiveness & Commitment***

My dear friends, brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, these three words I believe to be the keys to a successful recovery from the past and for a glorious new beginning. It has been my experience that when we get completely **Honest** with everything, no matter how painful or shameful it may be, we then allow our Heavenly Father to administer His loving Grace to us with complete **Forgiveness**. We must be ready also to forgive any and all who have wronged us in any way, as hard as that seems. It is absolutely necessary for complete healing, and even though you may want that "pound of flesh," the Bible says in Rom 12:19, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

We must completely forgive the whole thing and turn it over to God. By doing this, it frees us up from carrying the bitterness any longer - it will be a relief and lighten our load. Remember, the Word of God tells us to cast our burdens upon Him - our Lord does not want us weighted down with excess baggage from the past. We need to understand that we are in a race and cannot carry the weight, but must be stripped down so that we will run it unencumbered and we will be the winners.

I truly wish I could put my finger on the part of working the steps that was the magic part, but I can't. All I know is that I made a **Commitment** to do all there was to do. I did not believe any of it was going to work for me, but I promised God that I would do it anyway, and that I needed His help.

Psalm 37:4,5 "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass."

Psalm 84:11 "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Brethren and fellow pilgrims, did you notice in all the above verses our Blessed Lord has a part for us: Delight, Commit, Walk uprightly. That's right, you need to have an active part in your recovery, there are no Lone Rangers! You team up with the Lord and your accountability partner, and apply all the principles you will be taught, and you too can walk victoriously, knowing who you are in Christ Jesus, and pressing toward that high calling of God to all who would believe.

God's goal for us is to grow toward Christ-likeness, and live by the example that He set. My beloved, I would like to share the two verses that God gave to me that help me every day to walk Godly in Christ Jesus; they are found in Romans 12:1,2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

***May our God richly bless you in your Pilgrim's Progress.***

***In His love and service  
Pastor Tom and Dottie***