

YOUR GUIDE TO *Biblical Care* FOR ADDICTION



BIBLICAL DEFINITIONS
EFFECTIVE CARE
CONFIDENCE TO ENTER IN

This is about God's work of redemption... in me, in you and in those who feel trapped in addiction.

Trying to make sense of my husband's addiction, the world's explanation (that this was a disease and my husband had no control) brought me temporary comfort, but no hope he could change. Through the wise care and biblical counsel of my pastors, I found that a proper understanding of the Gospel was the only real "cure" for addiction and the suffering it brought to my family.

As a result, I am passionate about helping pastors and other church members confidently use God's Word to bring hope and life to a hurting and lost world. This guide is just a sample of the free resources available to churches that desire to engage with their community in life-changing ways.

Every church is called to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Hope for Addiction equips you to disciple those trapped in addiction and lead them into a growing relationship with Jesus and the local church.

Join us, and together we will bring Hope for Addiction.


Liz Beck
Founder/President



TRANSFORMING LIVES. EQUIPPING CHURCHES.

Using Biblical Language

Many words have been redefined by our culture. If the church embraces the language of the culture, Scripture becomes irrelevant to the sufferings and struggles of our lives. If we believe the Bible speaks to every situation and we consider the whole counsel of Scripture, we must properly define words. When we biblically identify words and phrases we can confidently connect Scripture to common problems and bring hope for real change.

FREE RESOURCES @ hopeforaddiction.com/churches

Worldly View	Biblical View	Scriptures
Addiction	Slavery, idolatry, lover of pleasure/self rather than lover of God, refuge in something other than God	Jonah 2:8, Colossians 3:5, 2 Peter 2:19, Romans 6, Psalm 16:4, Galatians 5:19-21, Galatians 4:8, Psalm 62:5-7
My identity is... an addict, alcoholic, recovering addict, in recovery	In Christ I am a new creation, free, no longer a slave (addiction is the struggle not the identity)	2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:6-7, John 8:36, Galatians 2:20
Normies, people who don't have addiction, normal people	We are all the same, all in need of rescue from our sin	Romans 5:6-8, Romans 10:10-13, Galatians 3:26-28, Colossians 3:9-11
Recovery	Change or transformation, freedom	2 Corinthians 3:18, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Romans 12:2, Psalm 51:10, Galatians 5:1
Character defect, compulsive behaviors, wrongs, disease, we all make mistakes	Sin and the response of repentance, sin nature	1 John 1:8-10, Acts 3:19, Romans 3:23, Titus 2:11-12, Psalm 51:1-2
Higher Power	Jesus Christ, Who conquered sin and death	Ephesians 1:15-23, Colossians 1:15-17, John 1:1-3
Moral Compass	Holy Spirit, Word of God	John 14:26, John 16:13, 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Worldly View	Biblical View	Scriptures
Amends	Forgiveness and reconciliation	Proverbs 28:13, Psalm 32:5, James 5:16, Romans 14:9, Hebrews 12:14, Proverbs 14:9
Codependent	Fear, idolatry, lack of faith/trust, fear of man, desire to control	2 Timothy 1:7, Proverbs 29:25, Deuteronomy 31:6, Proverbs 3:5-8, Hebrews 13:6, Isaiah 12:2
I need to fix this/work harder/do better	God needs to change my heart, I need to see that Christ has dominion over sin	Philippians 2:13, 2 Corinthians 3:5, Philippians 4:7-9, Philippians 1:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:23
Triggers	Temptations	1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 4:15
Spiritual experience	Salvation	Acts 16:31, Acts 2:21, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:4-5, Romans 10:13
Fake it 'til you make it	Power to obey through Christ, put to death sin nature, walking in obedience and faith despite feelings, not leaning on your own understanding	2 Corinthians 7:9-19, Romans 6:14, Colossians 3, 1 Peter 1:14, Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Corinthians 5:6-9, Hebrews 11:6
Intervention	Loving confrontation, a call to repentance, bear one another's burdens, a call to follow Jesus	Galatians 6:1-3, Mark 10:17-22, 2 Timothy 2:21-26
Forgive yourself	Rest in, walk in and trust in the forgiveness of Christ secured at the cross	Isaiah 43:25, Ephesians 1:7, Psalm 103:12, Hebrews 10:12-14, Colossians 1:13-14
Tough love	Loving accountability, discipline	1 Thessalonians 5:14, Luke 15:11-24
Let go, let God	Disciplined for godliness, we are required to respond: fight, put on, put off, put to death	1 Timothy 4:7, 1 Timothy 6:11-12, Ephesians 6:11, Colossians 3:5-17
Generational curse	Learned behavior, sinful behavior, Christ has dominion	Colossians 1:16, Romans 6:14

His divine power
has granted to us
all things
that pertain to life and godliness,
through the knowledge of him
who called us to his own glory and excellence.
2 Peter 1:3

4 ways

WE EQUIP CHURCHES LIKE YOURS:



1 RECOVERING HOPE
weekly recovery
meeting program



2 DISCIPLESHIP CURRICULUM
workbooks and leader
guides



3 ONGOING TRAINING
practical instruction
and application for
effective ministry



4 FREE RESOURCES
articles, practical
tools, videos and more

Recovering Hope

WEEKLY MEETING

Coming to these meetings helped me understand forgiveness. I thought I was unforgivable because of all the stuff I've done.

Brian



The recovery meeting models a church small group and brings practical application of God's Word to struggling addicts. Each week, through interactive discussion, we explore how the finished work of Christ brings hope for lasting change. When we view addiction biblically, at the core we are all sinners in need of the Savior. *Recovering Hope* meetings help struggling addicts see their problem biblically, and invites them into a deeper relationship with Jesus lived out within church community - found in your church.

In a grace-filled environment, we discuss how Christ makes a difference in the midst of genuine trials and suffering and how being in community is vital for change. Discussion guides for leaders are easy to follow and require minimal prep time. *Recovering Hope* meetings serve as an evangelistic tool and help to identify who, in attendance, is ready to invest further into discipleship and church community.

SEE SAMPLE DISCUSSION @ hopeforaddiction.com/sample

Discipleship CURRICULUM



My discipleship leader helped me follow Jesus in all parts of life. Six years later, I am a wife and mother, serving in my church. I'm not just sober, I'm free in Christ!

Jennifer

**How does someone leave the old life behind and follow Jesus?
How does one live in the new nature while putting off the old?
How do addicts walk in the freedom of Christ when they still struggle with temptations to use?**

Helping a new believer follow Jesus is the mission of the church (Matthew 28:19-20). Our discipleship tools give church leaders a clear path for practical application of God's Word to help struggling addicts put to death the sin nature (Colossians 3) and walk in the light (1 John 1).

One-on-one discipleship is critical for a struggling addict. Discipleship creates accountability and trust that the addict needs in order to engage in the church. When we live life and serve together, we see that we are alike in more ways than we are different.



Hope for Addiction removes the barrier between addicts and church members and allows us to live as brothers and sisters in Christ and united members of the church body.

With both biblical and practical application, you will have all you need to effectively lead an addict out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9) and into a life that glorifies God (Ephesians 1:6).

FREE CURRICULUM @ hopeforaddiction.com/toolkit

Training

Care for addicts *does* have some unique factors to consider. Hope for Addiction's ongoing training includes both biblical and practical application. We help you to think biblically, then actually teach you HOW to use what you learn in every day interactions. By blending both of these perspectives, we help you provide your church members with all they need to effectively care for a hurting addict. Participating in training opportunities helps your church leaders continue to be equipped for the challenges of addiction ministry. Topics presented help you practically care for another while renewing and refreshing your own soul.

FIND TRAINING RESOURCES @ hopeforaddiction.com/toolkit



Free Resources

What is medication-assisted treatment?

How do I help a struggling addict?


Our growing library of articles answers questions like these with a biblical understanding of addiction, tools for practical application of Scripture to care for addicts, and much more. Think of us as **your "go-to" for all things addiction.**

To see a sample of the free resources available to you, turn the page!



I've found the Hope for Addiction resources to be invaluable. They are full of Scripture, thorough, theologically sound and full of grace. They give a solid place from which to begin. These gospel-rich resources provide the structure and truth that is so crucial when stepping into a mentor/discipleship role.

Heidi



SOMEONE IN MY CHURCH IS ADDICTED. NOW WHAT?

Someone in your church has confessed a struggle with addiction and a desire for help... What do you do now? How do you begin to help? Your initial response may be to seek the world's answers because you don't confidently know how the church can meet the very real needs of the struggling addict. But the church is *more* than able to step into these situations and confidently bring hope and help!

1) Encourage

- Encourage that God is at work evidenced by his confession and reaching out for help.
- Encourage that you will be with him through the process; he won't be doing this alone.

2) Assess

- Assess the level of addiction: how much is used, how often, affects on family/job, etc.

- Assess the next appropriate steps: rehab, detox, etc.*
- Assess his readiness for change.

3) Next Steps

- Define a clear plan for what you are willing to do and what your help will look like (Example: "I will meet with you weekly," "our church will assemble a team to help you stay accountable," "our church will help you get to a treatment program.")
- Define what is required of him in order to receive your help (Example: "you must call your accountability person every day and follow the approved plan for your day," "you must call your accountability team if you are struggling to use," "you must attend church every time the doors are open.") This is not you controlling his life; rather, this is you helping him regain control of an out-of-control and chaotic life.
- Help with locating and entering an appropriate treatment or detox, if needed.
- Develop a plan of action and accountability with a team in the church.*

4) Cautions to Consider

- Carefully evaluate financial support. Financial support that moves him toward change is helpful (Example: plane ticket to treatment center). Financial support that allows him to stay in his addiction is not (Example: paying his rent when he has wasted his money on his addiction).
- Discern manipulative behavior and then lovingly confront.
- You are leading the path to help; this is not his plan or his way. (Remember: his way of doing things got him here.)

FULL ARTICLE AVAILABLE @ hopeforaddiction.com/churches

*a sample plan is available @ hopeforaddiction.com/toolkit

FROM A PASTOR



Through the ministry of Hope for Addiction we've seen the Gospel at work in the lives of people battling addiction and all forms of habitual sin. Week in and week out, the Word of God and the power of the Gospel are brought to bear on the sin struggles of life

Jesus is our hope, and he is the focus of this much-needed discipleship program.

Jared Torres
Soul Care Pastor
Christ Church | Gilbert, Arizona

CONNECTING THE DESIRE TO CHANGE
WITH THE POWER TO CHANGE.

WHAT'S NEXT?



Get in touch

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"I'm still trying to understand how my church can make a difference for someone who struggles with addiction." Addiction is a hard topic to talk about and we have been conditioned to let the world handle it. Our heart is not to condemn, but provide hope that change is possible. To understand why we believe what we do in more depth, please visit our website.



"This sounds good but I want to understand more." To learn more about what Hope for Addiction believes and find the resources offered, visit hopeforaddiction.com/churches



"I believe Christ is the answer for addiction and have been looking for this type of program!" If you are ready to utilize the tools we've created, enroll at hopeforaddiction.com/toolkit. This toolkit has everything you need to walk with a struggling addict.



"I am all in!" If you see a great need in your community and are interested in starting a Recovering Hope program in your church, call/text/email us to get started. We will provide you with everything you need.



In a culture that is increasingly hostile to the message of the Gospel, we are committed to equipping churches with biblical training and tools to effectively and confidently engage addiction culture.

We believe that Scripture is not only relevant to the issues we face, it is the very Word of God, living and active, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible is infallible and necessary for guidance in all of life, not just sobriety. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

We live in Christian community so that we may be built up, encouraged in our faith and growing in our knowledge of God (Colossians 2:7, Hebrews 10:24-25, Galatians 6:1). All Christians, even recovering addicts, need to be meaningfully involved in a local church (Ephesians 4).

The Good News of the Gospel is that, not only are we saved by Christ, but we are being renewed into the image of Christ, which makes the Gospel central to all of life. For a struggling addict, this truth means that addiction is no longer stealing from them, they are in Christ, made new and free to live for his glory.

The culture has influenced the way we think about addiction, explaining it as a disease or identity. When the Church succumbs to the definitions of the world, we struggle to apply Scripture to the actual problem. When we define addiction according to the truth of Scripture, there is real hope for change.



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