

Sermon Notes – Pastor Jim Craver “Freedom from Addiction”

Addiction is a condition in which a person engages in use of a substance or in a behavior for which the rewarding effects provide a compelling incentive to repeatedly pursue the behavior despite detrimental consequences. - Psychology Today, 2018

1. What is the issue with addiction & why the Church must address it?

The leading cause of death in those under 50 years is:

Over the last two years the average life span has decreased by ____ years!

One of fastest growing demographics for addiction is those between _____!

As a Church, we MUST talk about this!

2. As Christians, what do we need to know about addiction?

Romans 7:18-20 The struggle

Romans 7: 21-23 The problem

Romans 7: 24-25 The bottom

2. Grace for those addicted and those who love them!

How does a person fall into addiction?

Biological

Medical

Environment

What keeps a person in addiction?

Fear (what might happen)

Shame (what did happen)

Luke 15: 1-2 – Jesus identifies with and loves “notorious sinners”!

Romans 8: 1-2! The power from God!

3. The implications for the Church!

We are uniquely positioned by God to join Him in rescuing people!

We can choose to be a people that walk with God into the pain, misery and brokenness – a people that bring the grace of God without judgement!

The test of the power of this church is not measured inside this room, but in our community!