Life's Healing Choices

THE BEATITUDES -

BREAKING FREE FROM ABUSE

Parts 1-3

"Why do you keep tormenting me with words? Time after time you insult me and show no shame for the way you abuse me." JOB 19:1-3. (TEV)

HOW TO HELP SOMEONE BREAK FREE

Jesus: "The truth will set you free." JOHN 8:32

David: "I said, 'I will not say anything while evil people are near.' So I kept quiet, not saying a word...but my suffering only grew worse, and I was overcome with anxiety. The more I thought, the more troubled I became; I could not keep from asking: 'Lord, how long will I live? When will I die? Tell me how soon my life will end.'"

PSALM 39:1-4 (TEV)

MARKS OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE – DAVID'S DESCRIPTIONS

"My enemies taunt me day after day. They mock and curse me." **PSALM 102:8**

"...they tell lies about me and threaten me." PSALM 109:20

"...they make fun of me and ridicule me."1 PSALM 22:7

"I have been insulted, put to shame, and humiliated." PSALM 69:19

"Using words to kill; they bully their way with words." PSALM 73:8 (MES)

> "They push hard to make me fall." PSALM 118:13 (GW)

"They spread rumors about me, and conspire against me." PSALM 31:13

"They mock me with the worst kind of profanity, and snarl at me." PSALM 35:16 "Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God comes upon all those who disobey him." EPHESIANS 5:6 (NLT)

4. _____

"Look on victims of abuse as if what happened to them happened to you." HEBREWS 13:3B (MES)

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." GALATIANS 6:2 (NIV)

5.

"By yourself you're unprotected. With a friend you can face the worst. Can you get a third person? A three-stranded rope isn't easily snapped." ECCLESIASTES 4:12 (MES)

"Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, rebuke and expose them. It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. But when the light shines on them, it becomes clear how evil these things are. And where your light shines, it will expose their evil deeds." EPHESIANS 5:11-13 (NLT)

6._____

Advice to Job: "Put your heart right. Reach out to God. Put away any evil and wrong from your home. Then face the world again, firm and courageous. Then all your troubles will fade from your memory, like floods that are past and remembered no more! Your life will be brighter than sunshine at noon, and life's darkest hours will shine like the dawn!"

JOB 11:13-17 (TEV)

"Never repay one wrong with another, or one abusive word with another; instead, repay with a blessing. That is what you are called to do, so that you inherit a blessing." 1 PETER 3:9 (NJB)

"Christ never verbally abused those who verbally abused him. When he suffered, he didn't make any threats but left everything to the one who judges fairly." 1 PETER 2:23 (GW)

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