

Ew. Choosing Jesus in the Mess *Admitting Need: The Reality Choice*

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:3 - “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” ESV

1. We tend to do things that add to the mess.

- We tend to do wrong. *Romans 7:15*
- We tend to try to be god of our life. *Genesis 3:4-6a*
- We tend to attempt to play God.

We try to control:

- Our image
- Other people
- Our problems
- Our pain

2. We suffer consequences of our tendencies to control.

- **Fear-** *John 11:39-40*
- **Frustration-** *Genesis 3:12; Romans 7:21-23*
- **Fatigue-** *Psalms 32:3*
- **Failure-**

3. We choose Jesus in the mess. *Matthew 5:3*

I must admit I am powerless to:

- Change my past.
- Control other people. *Matthew 7: The log and speck principle*
- Cope with my harmful habits, behaviors and actions. *Gen. 3:21*

3 steps for choosing Jesus in the mess.

1. Pray about the mess
2. Write about the mess
3. Share about the mess

Next Week's Reading Guide:

Matthew 5:4, Psalm 34:18
Isaiah 43:1b-2, Isaiah 61:1-3
Hebrews 11:6; Romans 1:20
Psalm 31:7-24
Psalm 56:8-13
Psalm 103:8-17, Romans 5:8-11
Ephesians 1:19-20, 2 Timothy 1:7, Philippians 2:13

Discussion Questions:

1. Of the 4 ways we tend to try to control, what one do you think you do most? Share about it.
2. Of the 4 consequences of being controlling, which one do you think you suffer most? Share about it.
3. Of the 3 C's of #3, which one do you feel needs Jesus' power the most? Share about it.
4. Who is in your life that you can share about the mess with? If you have no one, will you choose someone? Who?