

RANSOMED HEART



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Grace



The human soul is a place of profound mysteries. God is a person of infinite creativity. He can do this any way he wants. Sometimes he goes straight for the wound or the brokenness. Having had that healed, we find it far easier to resist the enemy and renounce our sins. Sometimes it requires binding the enemy first, simply so we can think clearly enough to do the repenting and find the healing we need. This is an outline to the process whereby we become holy in his name. Jesus will guide you. Ask him to guide you.

Do not be surprised or discouraged if you find that it takes more than one round of prayer. It didn't take you a day to get into this mess. Sometimes you'll have to pray again in a month, and then again in six months. Listen carefully: This doesn't mean that "it didn't work." Quite often Christ comes back in our lives for a deeper work of healing. Even if you're only eighteen, the sun has gone down a lot of times in your life; there's a lot of past there. But if you're fifty-eight, there's a whole lot more past to your story. So be gracious, be patient; it doesn't mean you're blowing it if Christ brings it up again. It simply means it's time for another round, and so you go back again through this exact process of repentance and deliverance and healing.

The beauty is that as you become more whole, you can become holier. And as you become holier, you can become more whole. Trying to choose one without the other I think has really brought people a great deal of distress, brought them to the conviction that no real change takes place in this life. It's not true. It's just that discipline is not enough. As my wife Stasi was saying just the other day, "You can't repent your way out of brokenness." It simply doesn't work. We repent our sins; the brokenness must be healed. Furthermore, this isn't simply about the sweet love of Jesus. You have an enemy, strongholds are real, and you must break those agreements and banish the enemy.

