

CHARLES PRETLOW

Pastor, Author, Speaker — as a Bondservant of Jesus Christ

God's Recovery Program

Speaking Topic Overview

Despite the multitude of self-help recovery plans and regiments, many Christians continue to struggle with their walk with Christ, not realizing they suffer from damaged emotions and a wounded spirit. Many Christians practice a form of the popularized 12 step recovery programs. There is some value to this approach, but they do not use Biblical Principles that facilitate complete recovery.

Masses of believers are in denial that something is wrong on the inside, ignorant of God's healing grace. Remember, *"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit"* (Psalm 34:18). However, if we do not seek God's nearness, with understanding and follow scriptural principles of healing, cleansing and recovery, but rather rely on religion, medication, or emotional pain suppressing activities, then we miss out on God's healing grace.

In June of 1988 Pastor Pretlow began to counsel struggling Christians as the counseling pastor in a 400-member Foursquare fellowship and within six months of ministry, his calendar was booked three months in advance.

These troubled Christians were seeking help for a variety of issues and many learned about this new Holy Spirit led pastoral counseling by word of mouth. Most who came suffered from being reared in a dysfunctional family system; however, some cases had a history of severe abuse, parental abandonment, and childhood systematic sexual abuse, (victims of Cult Family Ritualistic Abuse (CFRA). Some were victims of Satanic Ritualistic Abuse (SRA Victims).

Early on in his counseling ministry, he was nearly overwhelmed by the number of wounded Christians coming for help. He soon realized that proper understanding of Scripture and being led by the Holy Spirit in facilitating God's healing power and grace was the only way to succeed.

He soon discovered that by employing the true gifts of the Holy Spirit in counseling was the most effective approach. Further, by teaching the counselee how to work with the Holy Spirit as THE COUNSELOR, recovery time began to decrease measurably.

This two-hour presentation will set a good foundation for pastors and leaders to establish a recovery ministry that is led by the Holy Spirit and facilitates true healing and wholeness. The recommended text to help get the most out of this speaking topic is:

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