3 — THE DEVIL seeks to tempt, deceive, afflict and hinder our spiritual growth and faith in the Lord. (However, the enemy can do nothing against the will of God.)

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

I Peter 5:8-9 NKIV

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WE BELIEVE in Submission to the Holy Spirit and dependence upon His guidance to maintain our spiritual walk.

"But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."

Romans 8:9 NKJV

WE BELIEVE in the sufficiency of God's Grace:

"For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace." Romans 6:12 NKJV

"And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions,

in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong." II Corinthians 12:9-10 NKIV

WE BELIEVE in the necessity of Faith.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. . . But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:1, 6 NKJV

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2 NKIV

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."

II Corinthians 9:8 NKIV

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WE BELIEVE in the necessity of Obedience:

"Jesus said . . . 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
This is the first and great commandment."
Matthew 22:37-38 NKJV

If we truly love God, we will naturally want to keep His commandments. Obedience to the commandments God designed to enrich our lives — not deprive us — should be our deep desire. When we positively consider what we

should do—rather than worrying about all we should not do—we can show our love for God.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35 NKJV

WE BELIEVE Prayer is important and powerful.

Jesus said: "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24 NKIV

Because of Jesus' resurrection, we may approach God personally and directly. We approach God, not because of our own merit, but because our faith in Jesus has made us acceptable to God.

"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41 NKIV

Temptation strikes in our weakest areas. Prayer is essential. God strengthens our defenses and when focus our minds on Him.

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"The Most Excellent Way" is dedicated to serving churches, Christian organizations, and individuals desiring to focus on the truths that emerge from God's Word concerning bondage to drugs, alcohol and other life-controlling sin. The Bible, the power of God's Holy Spirit, and Jesus' love and example are our foundations.

The Most Excellent Way

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The Most Excellent Way

What We Believe



The Christian Solution for Addictions: **IESUS!**

- WE BELIEVE the Bible is God's infallible word, and it is the final authority on all issues concerning our lives and "The Most Excellent Way."
- WE BELIEVE the Bible says alcohol and drug addiction are sin, not disease. Therefore, the issue of sin and separation from God are dealt with as the root of all addiction problems.
- WE BELIEVE there is only one way we find forgiveness for sin through faith in Jesus Christ who died for our sins. God is the *only* authority and power able to forgive our sins.
- WE BELIEVE there is only one way to be reconciled to God and experience total victory over the sins of addiction: "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7), by the Spirit of God. That occurs when we ask Jesus Christ to become our personal Lord and Savior.
- WE BELIEVE once "born again," we are empowered by the Spirit of God to overcome any sin, including drugs and alcohol.
- WE BELIEVE lasting and permanent victory over the sin of addiction occurs when we deny our own will, and begin to willingly surrender our lives to the perfect will of God on a daily basis.
- WE BELIEVE, and place great emphasis, on teaching and instruction from the Word of God as led by His Holy Spirit.
- WE BELIEVE knowing God's truths protects us from false ideas and doctrines present in the world. Jesus said: "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 NKJV.

Jesus is the truth that makes us free. He is the source of truth, the perfect standard of what is right. He frees us from self-deception, and shows us the way to eternal life . . .

". . . that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—"

Ephesians 4:14-15 NKJV

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WE BELIEVE what the Bible says about the nature of man which needs God's solution:

Man's Soul

"Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, . . . " I Peter 2:11 NKIV

Jesus said: "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Matthew 11:29-30 NKJV

MAN'S SPIRIT

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." II Timothy 1:7 NKJV

MAN'S HEART

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."

Jeremiah 17:9-10 NKJV

Man's Mind

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2 NKJV

MAN'S SIN NATURE (DEPRAVITY)

"...For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..." Romans 3:23-24 NKJV

Understanding man's fallen nature is especially important. Too often, "recovery" experts talk of overcoming "character" defects. The Bible tells us the *whole* person is depraved. We must *put off the old* (self) and *put on the new* (Jesus).

MAN'S NEW SELF

"But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

Ephesians 4:20-24 NKJV

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- WE BELIEVE in the importance of understanding the differences between personal responsibility and the three-fold enemy of the Christian:
- 1 THE WORLD. Things of the world, which are expressions of sinful man's cravings, are ever-present influences for Christians.

"Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever."

Romans 1:24-25 NKJV

"For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world." I John 2:16 NKJV

2 — THE FLESH. We must choose whether we will satisfy and serve the desires and passions of our flesh or walk in the Spirit.

"Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Galations 5:19-22 NKIV

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit,

let us also walk in the Spirit."

Galations 5:22-25 NKJV

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

I Corinthians 10:11 NKJV