

Act of the Will!

The intro song : Chris Padgett - Golden from the album Golden

Prayer:

Adulterers

Fornicators

Those who are lost in lust & sin, pornography

All marriages that have been destroyed

May God give all married couples the grace to live their vocation:

For the Glory of God

Sanctification of the marriage

The well being & salvation of the family

The good of society!

Just this week:

- Blessed to communicate with several listeners on some personal struggles
 - sexual promiscuity
 - Pornography
 - adultery
 - Martial crises
 - etc.

- Satan whispers : "You are broken... how can God love you?" or "things are so bad... there is no fixing this"!
 - Do you feel LOST,,, separated from God because of your sins?
 - Do you feel like you are "damaged goods" too broken to return?
 - Do you feel like God could NOT possibly LOVE you because of what you've done... how you have lived your life?
 - How can we find our way back from this?
 - Is it possible to be reconciled, or to reconcile after we fall so far?
 - YES! How... **WILL POWER!**
- "I would sin like David... if I could repent like David"
 - From Scott Hahn
 - David is the only man in Scripture to be called "a man after God's own heart" 1 Sam. 13:13&14
 - Yet David would:
 - have countless wives & concubines
 - commit adultery - Bathsheeba
 - commit murder - Uriah - Bathsheeba's Husband!
 - Yet in the Psalms we see how David pours himself out to God in repentance:
 - Psalm 51: 1. [0] A Psalm of David, when

*Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone
in to Bathsheba.*

- *[1] Have mercy on me, O God,*
- *according to thy steadfast love;*
- *according to thy abundant mercy blot out my*
transgressions.
-
- *[2] Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,*
- *and cleanse me from my sin!*
-
- *[3] For I know my transgressions,*
- *and my sin is ever before me.*
-
- *[4] Against thee, thee only, have I sinned,*
- *and done that which is evil in thy sight,*
- *so that thou art justified in thy sentence*
- *and blameless in thy judgment.*
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- *[5] Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,*
- *and in sin did my mother conceive me.*
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- *[6] Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being;*
- *therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.*
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- *[7] Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;*
- *wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*
-
- *[8] Fill me with joy and gladness;*
- *let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice.*
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- *[9] Hide thy face from my sins,*
- *and blot out all my iniquities.*
-
- *[10] Create in me a clean heart, O God,*
- *and put a new and right spirit within me.*
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- *[11] Cast me not away from thy presence,*
- *and take not thy holy Spirit from me.*
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- *[12] Restore to me the joy of thy salvation,*
- *and uphold me with a willing spirit.*
-
- *[13] Then I will teach transgressors thy ways,*
- *and sinners will return to thee.*
-
- *[14] Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,*
- *thou God of my salvation,*
- *and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance.*
-
- *[15] O Lord, open thou my lips,*
- *and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.*
-
- *[16] For thou hast no delight in sacrifice;*
- *were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased.*
-
- *[17] The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;*
- *a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.*
 - Do we pour ourselves out to God like this
after we have sinned?

- Just this week, in corresponding with these listeners I was hearing how desperate, and hopeless they felt in their situations.
 - It was as if they stood just outside the confessional.... and would NOT go in to receive absolution... to be reconciled to God! To TRUST in GOD through the storm!
- WILL POWER is the answer!
 - Boot Camp: The Grim Reaper!
 - Guide:
 - Pushups every morning
 - pressure from the DI's
 - Complaints from the recruits
 - pranks from the recruits
 - having to be one step ahead of everyone ALL the time!
 - WHY?
 - One Day there was this mountain! The Grim Reaper... we had to climb it in formation...
 - I kept my head down
 - My breathing in control
 - My eye on the prize
 - and my WILL in charge of my emotions!
 - I left everyone... including my senior DI in the dust to get to the top... I paid a

heavy price from Senior... but the accomplishment was amazing!

- Our Lord showed the ultimate WILL Power as he too climbed a mountain and went to the cross!
 - CCC 606 - the WILL of the Father!
 - CCC 612 - the horror of death in the flesh!
 - In the Garden our Lord prayed 3 times... "let this cup pass from me, but NOT my will but THY will be done! **Matthew 26:30-50**
 - When the hoard came out to arrest him St. Peter drew his sword and tried to defend our Lord but Jesus said... "Shall I NOT drink the cup the Father has given me?" **John 18:10&11**
 - Jesus DOES drink the cup... on the cross, he pulls himself up on the nails, by sheer will power, and gasps for air to proclaim "I thirst!" **John 19:28-30**
 - So they gave him the sour wine on hyssop and he drank it & proclaimed... IT IS FINISHED! Tel-Telst-TI in greek. IT IS CONSUMMATED! This was the 4th cup of the Passover, the cup of consummation, which was total obedience to God the Father... to lay down HIS life for all the world!
 - This is why St. Paul tells us in **Philippians** 2:6-8
 - [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not

count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, [10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- *Are you staring at a Mountain?*

- *Prior to the fall the will of Adam & Eve ruled over their emotions....*
- *After the fall, and disobedience, the rolls were reversed.*
- *Our Lord, through perfect obedience, put them back in proper perspective through a perfect act of the will. Knowing what death he was to face, having a choice... he faced it through sheer will power and died that we might have life!*

- *Are you separated from God?*

- *GO TO CONFESSION TODAY!*
- *Don't FEEL like it? GO anyway!*

- *Have you been hurt? Have you been victimized?*

- *LOVE!*

- FORGIVE!
- PRAY!
- SEEK HOLINESS!
- SEEK TO RECONCILE!
- Don't FEEL like it? DO IT anyway... out of will power!
- Meditate on the words of our Lord who said "Father why has thou forsaken me?"
 - How could he say such a thing?
 - Did the Father turn his back on him?
 - NO.... he was quoting Psalm 22... he could only muster the first line!
 - Read the entire Psalm which starts in despair, and persecution.... and ends with complete trust in God and proclaiming the glory of God to ALL!
- Make a CHOICE today to LOVE... to be like our Lord who also said, from the Cross, "Father forgive them for they know NOT what they do"!
 - Go to confession & be reconciled to our Lord today... who waits for you there... longing to take away your sins!
 - Pray for the grace to forgive others, as God has forgiven you, and reconcile yourself to those who hurt you!
- Not because we FEEL like it.... but because this is

what Jesus did... and we are to be imitators of HIM.

- **Ephesians 5:**

1. *[1] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.*
2. *[2] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

We look at how Jesus used his WILL POWER to be perfectly obedient to the Father which redeems us all and unties the know of disobedience of Adam. We too can use will power to over come our own situation and face the mountina along with our Lord.