

Addictions are common in our world today. With a growing emptiness inside themselves and a yearning to fill it, people use drugs, alcohol, and sex to try to find peace.

Shannon has a burden for young addicts who are trying to escape emotional pain by indulging themselves on alcohol and drugs. She yearns to see other people trust Christ as their Savior and to be freed from dependency on substances. The past few years she has been enrolled in the Addiction Studies program.

With her knowledge of addictions and by learning how to counsel hurting people, Shannon is looking forward to ministering to the needs of people hooked on drugs and other stuff. She says, "I want to meet physical needs and help addicts find answers to their spiritual needs."

God has opened her eyes to the reality of Jesus' statement, "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin" (John 8:34). Addiction truly is a vicious form of slavery. But Christ said, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (v.36). What a great hope and promise!

Do you struggle with addiction? Something you put before your eyes? Something you put in your mouth? Something that has you enslaved? It's time to stop trying to overcome it in your own strength and pray to God for complete release. He can give you victory by His awesome power!

You may struggle with denial and fear. But if you come to Christ with a heart that is broken before Him and a true desire to receive His power and healing, your battle will change. No longer will you be fighting God. He will now be working from the inside to help you begin defeating your self-destructive dependencies.

With His help, you can win that battle. Just ask Shannon. --TF

REFLECTION

- What addictive behavior(s) do I wrestle with? Pornography? Drugs? Alcohol?
- How can I enlist God's help in releasing me from my addiction?
- Who can be an accountability/prayer partner for me in this struggle?

God doesn't lock our chains--He breaks them.



Pastor: Wayne Robilliard Ph: 4758 8778.

Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Information for Visitors.

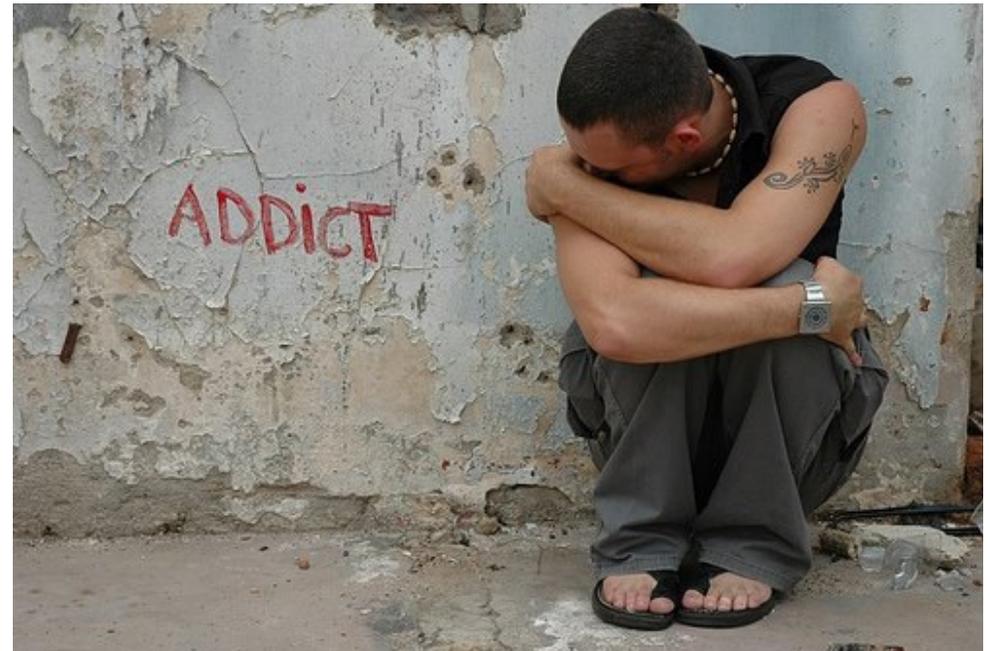
* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Kid's Church and creche is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to primary age bracket**. Please ask for details.

Addicted?

The battle was ended.

Shannon Taylor had fought God for years, using drugs and alcohol to escape from reality and avoid God's call on her life. Then one day, after wild partying and living an empty existence, Shannon received Christ as her Savior. At age 17, her life really began.





Freedom

We can make two Biblical statements about freedom:

1. We are _____, John 8:2-12, 21-24, 31-34,

(Acts 2:23-24) *"Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; {24} whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it."*

(Titus 3:3) *"For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another."*

(Proverbs 5:22) *"His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, And he is caught in the cords of his sin."*

(Romans 7:14-15) *"For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. {15} For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do."*

(Ephesians 2:1-3) *"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, {2} in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, {3} among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others."*

(Luke 16:26) *"And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us."*

(2 Timothy 2:23-26) *"But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, ...{25} in humility correcting those who are in opposition...{26} ..that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will."*

(Matthew 13:19) *"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart..."*

(Matthew 7:21) *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, ..."*



2. We can be _____, John 8:31-36

(Luke 4:18-19) *"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; {19} To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."*

(2 Corinthians 3:17) *"Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."*

(Romans 8:2) *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."*

(Romans 6:6) *"knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."*

(Romans 6:16-18) *"Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? {17} But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. {18} And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."*

(Romans 6:22-23) *"But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. {23} For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

(John 3:16) *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

(1 John 1:9) *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

(1 John 5:12-13) *"He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. {13} These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."*



Lindsay Lohan

