

## “THE HOUSECLEANING CHOICE”

### Life's Healing Choices – Part 4

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Fourth healing choice: The Housecleaning Choice – Coming Clean:** I openly examine and confess my faults to myself, to God, and to someone I trust.

Freedom is impossible without honesty  
John 8:32 (NIV) “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

If we are afraid of the truth, it's because we don't fully understand how much God loves me  
1 John 4:18 (NCV) “Where God's love is there is no fear, because God's perfect love drives out fear.”

Matthew 5:8 (GN) “Happy are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

John 10:10 (GN) “[Jesus said] I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness.”

**Jesus doesn't want me to be** religious **;** **He wants me to be** Real

John 11:43-44 (NKJ) “Jesus cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come forth!’ And he who had died came out bound hand & foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Loose him, & let him go.’”

Nothing that binds you can withstand the life-giving power of Jesus Christ

When you gave your life to Christ, the Bible says God brought you from death into life

But there are still things in your life that keep you from fulfillment in your life

A key way God brings freedom into our lives is through His people

Galatians 5:1 (NIV) “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”

John 8:36 (NIV) “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

You must understand, you cannot make your own heart pure  
Romans 5:8 (NIV) “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

The only way to have a pure heart is through the blood of Christ, shed on the cross for your sins

**The basis for a pure heart is not how** good **you've been, but how good** God **is**  
Psalm 139:1 (CEV) “You have looked deep into my heart, Lord, and You know all about me.”

The development of God's character in you doesn't happen overnight; it's a lifelong process

Your responsibility is to surrender to God and to practice what you already know

Romans 4:17 (GN) “...the God who brings the dead to life and whose command brings into being what did not exist.”

God sees you in Christ as having a pure heart; now you must cooperate with Him in the process of becoming what you are

If you fall down in the process, get back up. You need people around you to help you

When I fail or mess up, I want to hide from God

Don't ever let sin Keep you from God; sin should drive you to God

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

Lamentations 3:40 (KJ) "Let us search and try our ways and turn again to the Lord."

You can't understand the fullness of God's forgiveness until I realize how undeserving I am

There needs to be in your life the demonstration on the outside of what God is doing on the inside  
Philippians 2:12-13 (NLT) "Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him."

God does His freeing work through His people; we help each other in following Christ

We cannot heal a wound until we expose it and cleanse it

God isn't asking you to make a promise you can't keep; He's asking you to receive a promise that only He can keep

Psalms 32:5 (NLT) "Finally, I confessed all my sins to You and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, 'I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.' And You forgave me! All my guilt is gone."

James 5:16 (NIV) "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."

**Remember God's** Kindness

Romans 2:4 (NIV) "... God's kindness leads you toward repentance."

Romans 8:1 (NIV) "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Romans 5:8 (GN) "God has shown us how much He loves us – it was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us!"

**Remember God's** faithfulness

Philippians 1:6 (GW) "I'm convinced that God, who began this good work in you, will carry it through to completion on the day of Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:38-39 (NIV) "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Hebrews 13:5 (GN) "For God has said, 'I will never leave you; I will never abandon you.'"

**Remember God's** promises

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

Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV) "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."

2 Corinthians 1:20 (GN) "For it is Christ who is the 'Yes' to all of God's promises."