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## You'll Love the One You're With

There was a song written in the 70's by Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young called "Love the One You're With". The lyrics of this song gave the listener a way to justify being unfaithful to the one with whom you are in a committed relationship. The song states:

If you're down and confused  
And you don't remember who you're talking to,  
Concentration slips away  
Cause your baby is so far away  
[Chorus]  
Well there's a rose in the fisted glove  
And the eagle flies with the dove  
And if you can't be with the one you love honey  
Love the one you're with, Love the one you're with,

Though the lyrics were sung tongue in cheek, many acknowledged that while the one they were devoted to was unavailable, according to the writer of this song it was alright to have an adulterous relationship with someone else simply due to distance.

In the book of Ephesians, the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter and the 18<sup>th</sup> verse, the Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote a warning to the church at Ephesus. He warned them this way:

### **Ephesians 5:18-21 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation (in excess); but be filled with the Spirit,  
<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,  
<sup>20</sup> giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
<sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.

It may not be known what we are addicted to, or what we used to be addicted to, but for ease of understanding, remove the word "wine" in our text and fill in the blank with the addiction of choice. The warning will be no less potent or true for any of us.

The Holy Spirit is warning us if we do not fill our souls with Him, but instead fill our souls with whatever attracts us, we will do it to excess and will be in an adulterous relationship with it! In other words, We Will Love the One We're With!

Some have said that distance makes the heart grow fonder. That may be true with some, but to be distant from the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, is a dangerous place to be. The gap that divides will grow larger with time and effort (it takes effort to distance oneself from God).

In addition, the gap will be filled with body, soul, and spirit battling thoughts, words, and deeds. If this were not so, there would have been no need for Holy Spirit to tell us with what and how we are to fight these things.

### **2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

<sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

<sup>5</sup> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

<sup>6</sup> and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

This scripture tells us that the things that cause addiction are spiritual strongholds. As former addicts, we have come to realize that these spiritual strongholds manifest themselves in us physically and mentally. To heal the physical and mental effects of these strongholds, we must first tear down the strongholds spiritually. We cannot have victory over spiritual strongholds in a physical way.

The Bible also tells us that we can choose to keep God close.

### **Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Following after our own lusts will have its consequences (as most of us already know).

### **Galatians 6:7-8 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

<sup>8</sup> For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.