

UPGRADE (2) Stronger

This is a church where it's ok to not be ok.

Struggle #1
I struggle against my own sin.

John 8

31 To the Jews who had believed him,
Jesus said, 'If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

34 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Conclusion #1

The consequences of concealment far outweigh the consequences of confession.

James 5:16

16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Struggle #2
I'm a recovering Pharisee

Conclusion #2

I'm trusting salvation is about what Jesus has already done not anything I could ever do.

Ephesians 2

1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But Because of His great love for us. God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Struggle #3
On most days I feel completely inadequate.

Conclusion #3

Inadequacy is the result of focusing on who I was and not on who I am in Christ.

I Corinthians 6:9-11

9 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were - But you were washed, you were sanctified, and you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

Struggle #4

I have a hard time trusting God's plans verses my own.

Conclusion #4

God has more in store for your life than you could possibly imagine.

Ephesians 3:20-21

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Struggle #5

Some days I want to quit.

Conclusion #5

Jesus didn't quit. Neither will I.

Philippians 1:6

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

2 Timothy 4:6-8

“For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.