

July 2016

Quote from John Lynch's book, *The Cure*: "{Those who are walking with God} are careful and carefree as they realize that their Father is crazy about them on their worst day." I would add that he is no more crazy about them on their best day.

A couple of months ago I asked for prayer for our seminar on purity with some 45 Nav staff in their 20's. It was three days of teaching, stories, workshops, prayer, reflection, vulnerability with peers and mentors. Since that time we have been following up on the phone as these men live all over the US.

Here's a conclusion one of my buddies & I came to: The objective we're after is NOT to stop sinning but rather to seek an intimacy with Father, to listen to him, to walk with him. (Jn 10:27...My sheep listen to my voice, I know them and they follow me.) When our obj is to stop looking at porn for example we reach deep inside to find the wherewithall to avoid that sin. This is self-effort. This is not the freedom Jesus invites us into. We may look good for a while, we may even feel good for a while but then we cave. Rather Jesus invites us to a whole new place. Right by his side enjoying him. (A by-product of this intimacy is a life of less sin.)

This incredible conclusion is a game-changer! We realized together on the phone talking that it isn't just about our struggle with purity, it's about all of life. Not just sex, but finances, forgiveness, self-image, etc. Peter walks on the water toward Jesus but when his focus shifted to the wind & the waves he caved. But another beautiful part of the story is that he let go of self-effort & cried to Jesus who was right there. (Jesus was crazy about him!)

Thanks so very much for your prayer & partnership with Robin & I as we partner with these young men & women.

Love Harry & Robin