



Part 3 | Awakening to Help: I Can't Do This On My Own

Until we admit that we are powerless on our own to find fulfillment in this life, we will never truly find our way back to God. But once we recognize our need for help, we have already made the turn that leads us home to our heavenly Father. Help has a name: Jesus. Every time you turn away from self-centeredness and pride, he will be there to rescue, strengthen, and guide you on your journey with him.

Bottom Line: We receive God's help when we admit our need and turn in his direction.

Discussion Questions

1. Choose one of the following questions to begin your study: 1) Share about a time when you got into a jam and needed help. Was it difficult for you to seek help? Why? 2) Tell about a time when you tried to make a fresh start of some kind in your life and failed (a new job, a new relationship, break a bad habit, or improve yourself). Looking back, why do you think it didn't work?
2. Read **Luke 15:14-20**. This part of Jesus's story shows how the son humbled himself and went looking for the help he needed to start over again. When the son realized he needed some help, who did he think of and why?
 - a. What kind of reaction did the young man expect from his father? What kind of reaction did he actually get?
 - b. What does the reaction by his father (representing God) teach you about having the confidence to return to God?
3. Read **Matthew 11:28-30**. How are the "weary and burdened" like the younger son in the parable? How are they like you? What do these verses teach you about the kind of reception the needy get when they return to God?
4. Read **Romans 6:1-4**. Tell about when you made your personal decision to be baptized into Jesus. If you have never personally made that decision, what is holding you back?
5. How would you complete this sentence: "God, I really need your help with...."?
6. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
7. How can the group encourage you this week?