

### **Volume 1, Day 31: Live in Freedom from Condemnation**

What you need to do to have an effective life in a growing conversation with God is to have the freedom to fail. I know that sounds strange, but the performance basis of receiving God's affection must be recognized as false information. The thinking that, "I've got to get this right. It always has to be perfect." "If I ever miss God and do something wrong, my whole world will blow up and my life in Him will end," is neither Biblical nor relational.

When you go on this journey with God, believe me, it creates quite a bit of struggle. It's quite a learning curve to learn how to listen and how to follow without hesitation. It is no different than children learning to talk. They may stammer or call things by the wrong name for a while. And as we help them learn what exactly things are called, we do the same thing now in our journey into intimacy with God. So you will struggle. You will make mistakes. And you may still be struggling with a particular sin in your life. But don't let your sin consciousness creep in. We'll talk about that later, but those who think, "I can't have a relationship with God as long as there's sin in my life," will never know the freedom from self condemnation that comes from living in Him.

The best thing you can do about your sin right now is simply to thank Him for the forgiveness already given and to immediately concentrate on your love affair with Him. Listen to what He's saying. He is not going to remind you of sin. It has already been fully paid for. He's inviting you into a relationship with him where you feel His affection for you and then let Him guide you in all of the experiences of life. John 16 states clearly that the Holy Spirit's role for unbelievers is to convict them of sin. His role for those who are 'born again' of the Spirit, is to guide you into all truth. That includes, "...no condemnation to those who are in Christ."