

ACCOUNTABILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR RESTORATION

Is there a person close to you that you can ask to be your accountability partner? Someone to pray with you when you are tempted to sin?

1. If you are a man, choose a man. If you are a woman, choose a woman as your accountability partner.
2. Give the name and contact information of your accountability partner to your Bible study group leader.

When you first realize that you have a problem with sin, tell someone close to you. The Bible teaches the wisdom in confessing your sin to another so that another person can encourage you and help you in times of temptation. Choose someone you can trust and who loves you—who will be stern enough to put the following guidelines in place for you.

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much (James 5:16).

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend (Proverbs 27:17).

ACCOUNTABILITY OBSERVATIONS

1. Be sure your accountability partner is observing you to make certain you have not been doing things related to your addiction—24 hours a day, seven days a week.
2. Encourage your accountability partner to keep you stable and responsible. Also, make sure they are aware of your present and past associations to make sure you do not contact previous relationships that enabled your addiction.
3. Tell your accountability partner that there is zero-tolerance for your addiction. This is a life-or-death situation—physically and spiritually.

The wages of sin brings death. Romans (6:23).

Sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death (James 1:15).

CURFEW

Now the works of the flesh are evident...revelries...those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19-21).

The word *revelry* means late-night partying or, according to the dictionary, “lively and noisy festivities, especially when these involve drinking a large amount of alcohol.” Staying out late could be a temptation for you to socialize with people who may be involved with drinking alcohol.

A good curfew is 10 pm unless it’s absolutely necessary (i.e., working, family, church function). Why? Staying out later than 10 pm leaves you open to temptation and situations that are not beneficial to overcoming your addiction. In the same way, if you need prayer, send a text instead of calling. Answering phone calls (for the accountability partner) after 10 pm could be enabling to the addict.

Ask your accountability partner to wait up for you and talk to you when you come home at night. Why? To make certain that you have not jeopardized your plan for victory that leads to restoration and wholeness.

SCHEDULE

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep, so shall your poverty come on you like a prowler (Proverbs 6:10-11).