

## THE ROAD TO R.E.C.O.V.E.R.Y

Rick Warren

*In honor of Pastor John Baker, who led Celebrate Recovery for 28 years,  
this is my 1993 message that launched our global CR movement.*

### THE EIGHT BEATITUDES OF JESUS

*"God BLESSES those who recognize they are spiritually helpless." Matthew 5:3 (GW)*

**R**\_\_\_\_\_. I REALIZE THAT I'M NOT GOD  
AND I ADMIT I'M POWERLESS TO CONTROL MY HARMFUL ATTITUDES  
AND ACTION AND MY LIFE IS UNMANAGEABLE.

*"Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways." Proverbs 20:30 (GNT)*

*"Stop fooling yourselves!" 1 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT)*

*"Stop being childish in your thinking." 1 Corinthians 14:20 (NASB)*

*"God BLESSES those who mourn their losses and he will comfort them." Matthew 5:4*

**E**\_\_\_\_\_. THAT GOD EXISTS. THAT I MATTER  
TO HIM, AND THAT HE HAS THE POWER TO HELP ME RECOVER.

*"I don't understand myself, for I really want to do what is right, but I can't! I end up doing  
what I don't want to do, and I hate that! I'm well aware that what I'm doing is wrong . . .  
But I can't help myself! . . . The sinful urges inside me are stronger than I am . . . This  
makes me miserable! Who can free me from all this? Thank God, the answer is Jesus!"  
Romans 7:15-17,24-25 (TLB)*

*"God BLESSES those who practice meekness." Matthew 5:5*

**C**\_\_\_\_\_. TO COMMIT ALL MY LIFE AND WILL  
TO CHRIST'S CARE AND CONTROL

*Jesus: "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the  
driver's seat; I am." Matthew 16:24 (The Message)*

*"Give yourself to the Lord; trust in him, and he will help you." Psalm 37:5 (GNT)*

*"God BLESSES those with a cleansed heart. They get to see God." Matthew 5:8*

**O**\_\_\_\_\_. MY FAULTS TO MYSELF, TO GOD,  
AND TO SOMEONE I TRUST

*"Let us examine our ways and test them and return to the Lord." Lamentations 3:40*

*"You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. But if you confess them and give  
them up, God will show mercy to you." Proverbs 28:13 (GNT)*

*"Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed."  
James 5:16 (TLB)*

God: "No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you as clean  
as freshly fallen snow!" Isaiah 1:18 (TLB)

*"God BLESSES those who are hungry and thirsty to do what's right!" Matthew 5:6*

**V**\_\_\_\_\_. TO EVERY CHANGE GOD  
WANTS TO MAKE IN MY LIFE AND HUMBLY ASK HIM TO REMOVE MY  
CHARACTER DEFECTS

*"Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to  
him . . . and let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind."  
Romans 12:1-2 (GNT)*

*"God BLESSES those who show mercy to others. They will be shown mercy."  
Matthew 5:7*

*"God BLESSES peacemakers. He calls them his children." Matthew 5:9*

**E**\_\_\_\_\_. OFFER FORGIVENESS TO THOSE  
WHO'VE HURT ME AND MAKE AMENDS FOR THE HARM I'VE DONE TO  
OTHERS EXCEPT WHEN DOING SO WOULD HARM THEM OR OTHERS

*"Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger...along with every form of malice. Be kind and  
compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."  
Ephesians 4:31-32*

**R**\_\_\_\_\_. FOR SELF-EXAMINATION, BIBLE  
READING, AND PRAYER IN ORDER TO KNOW GOD AND HIS WILL FOR  
MY LIFE AND GAIN THE POWER TO DO HIS WILL

*"CONTINUE to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."  
2 Peter 3:18 (GNT)*

*"If you CONTINUE in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed; And you shall know  
the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32 (KJV)*

*"God BLESSES those who do what's right even when they are insulted, mistreated,  
lied about, and slandered because they follow me... A great reward awaits you in  
heaven." Matthew 5:11-12*

**Y**\_\_\_\_\_. TO BRING THIS GOOD NEWS TO  
OTHERS, BY MY EXAMPLE AND MY WORDS

*"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the  
hope that you have." 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)*

*"My brothers and sisters, when any of you wander away from the truth, you should help  
that person recover and come back. Don't write them off. Go after them! And remember  
this: Anytime you bring a friend who's sinned back from the wrong way, you save their  
soul from death and you cover a multitude of sins with forgiveness." James 5:19-20*

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