

“I Can’t Help It” or
“I Can Do It”?

Weakness is no excuse for not doing what we can

- Common excuse for losing spiritual battle:
‘I can’t help it’
- Some focus on their weakness, not on
God’s strength

I. "I Can't Help It" – An Excuse to Lose

I Can't Help It

- Gen.31:....35, Rachel
- Ruth 4:....6, next of kin
- Lk.11:....7, could not get up
- Lk.16:3, could not dig

I. "I Can't Help It" – An Excuse to Lose

II. "I Can Do All Things" –
A Reason to Win (Ph.4:13)

1. We can change our priorities

- Mt.22:37-38, *greatest* commandment deserves greatest priority
 - Lord said, *love* (not *obey*)
 - Love: one of strongest forces

1. We can change our priorities

- Mt.22:37-38, *greatest* commandment
- 2 Co.8:1-5, begins with example of giving
 - Paul's second journey: Ac.15-18 – Macedonia, Greece. History of rivalry...



1. We can change our priorities

- Mt.22:37-38, *greatest* commandment
- 2 Co.8:1-5, begins with example of giving
 - Paul used Macedonians to teach Corinth!
 - 1: grace of God (7, 9)
 - 2: Thessalonica: two obstacles
 - 3: concern; gave beyond ability
 - 3-4: choice: freely willing; not pressure
 - 5: conviction: first gave themselves to Lord (Mt.22)

2. We can allow Bible to have its way...

- Josh.1:8
- Merely knowing what to do is not enough.
 - Nu.13-14 revisited: Israel fears giants
 - Nu.21:4-9, new generation, not perfect
 - Nu.21:21-35, giants...
- Lk.10:37, study / meditate . . . Act on it.

3. We can depend on power of God

- 1 Co.10:13
- 2 Pt.2:...9
 - “God will not let us go beyond what is safe”?
 - Contrast Lot
 - Angels fell
 - Pre-flood people fell
 - Sodomites...
 - Mrs. Lot...
- 2 Pt.2:1-3

4. We can conquer temptation

- 1 Co.15:33, wrong companions, deception
- Hb.11:7
 - No word about peer pressure
 - Noah's conduct judged their sin
 - Worldly people love compromisers,
Hb.11:7

5. We can take one day at a time

- Mt.6:32-34
- Personal Bible study:
 1. One day at a time.
 2. One step at a time.

6. We can replace bad habits with good

- Mt.12:43-45
 - Nature hates a vacuum
 - Our life is not a spiritual void. Something will fill it.
- Ep.4:22-24...
 - ‘Nothing is stronger than a habit’ – Ovid
 - Changing habits to please God is always determined by choice.

Coram Deo

Gn.6:11, The earth also was corrupt **before God**, and the earth was filled with violence.

Ac.10:33, Now therefore, we are all present **before God** to hear all the things commanded you by God.