

The Road to Recovery:  
A Journey through the Beatitudes  
Part #1 – **Admitting Our Need: The Reality Choice**  
Sunday October 4, 2009  
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To repair the world requires that we allow God to put **us**  
back together again. (John Baker)

***“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the  
end it leads to death.”*** (Proverbs 14:12)

***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom  
of God.”*** (Matthew 5:3)

**The Reality Choice** – I realize I’m not God. I admit that I  
am **powerless** to control my tendency to do the wrong thing  
and that my life is **unmanageable**.

A. **The Cause of our Problems – We try to play God ...**

“Why do we continue to make poor choices? Why do we  
repeat the same mistakes? At the heart of our human  
tendency to do wrong is our desire to be in control. We  
want to decide for ourselves what is right and what is wrong.  
We want to make our own choices, call our own shots, make  
our own rules. We don’t want anybody telling us what to do.

In essence, we want to be God. Trying to be God is  
humankind’s oldest problem.”  
(John Baker)

1. We try to control our **image** by covering our true  
selves.
2. We try to control other **people** by manipulative  
tactics

3. We try to control our **problems** by playing a false  
tape that says; ‘I can handle it.’
4. We try to control our **pain** by denying it, escaping it  
and medicating it.

B. **Consequences of Playing God ...**

1. **Fear** – We fear that someone will find out who we  
really are and reject us. (Genesis 3:10)
2. **Frustration** – When we can’t control people and  
outcomes, the result is frustration.  
(Luke 22:49-51)
3. **Fatigue** – It get’s tiring being God ... especially if we’re  
playing the role of an imposter. (Psalm 32:3 NLT)
4. **Failure** – Playing God is one job where failure is  
guaranteed. We’re not big enough to win at this one.  
Resignation is our only option!  
(Proverbs 28:13 NLT)

C. **The Cure for our Problems – Humility and Admission  
of humanity**

The first step that’s required of us in order to get our act  
together is to admit our spiritual poverty – we don’t have  
what it takes to do it on our own!

1. I admit that I have a tendency to be spiritually **proud**,  
not **poor**.
2. I admit that I am powerless to change my **past**
3. I admit that I am powerless to control other **people**
4. I admit that I am powerless to **cope** with my harmful  
habits, behaviors and actions.

