

How Christ Transforms Us in Our Diseases and Disabilities

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- I. Introduction

- II. Unique Challenges
 - A. Daily living
 - B. Temptations
 - C. False Refuges
 - D. Worldly “answers”
 - E. Others
 - F. How will I come to know a person’s unique challenges?

- III. The transforming work of Christ
 - A. What is “normal” and “abnormal” in a fallen world?
 - B. Past – Why am I like this? (John 9:1-23)

 - C. Present – How do I think about myself? (Gal. 2:20)

D. Future – What hope can I have? (1 Pet. 1:1-9)

IV. Counseling Application

A. Be the church (Eph. 4, Rom. 12)

1. Relationships
2. Education
3. Participation
4. Ministry
5. Service
6. Creativity and flexibility

B. Practice discipleship at all levels (Rom. 15:14, Titus 2, 1 Pet. 5:1-3)

C. Don't forget to minister to family and other caregivers (ex: Mrs. Job, Job 2:9)

V. Resources

- A. Joni and Friends (joniandfriends.org)
- B. John Piper, *Disability and the Sovereign Goodness of God*. Ebook, Desiring God, 2012. Available at www.desiringgod.org/books/disability-and-the-sovereign-goodness-of-god
- C. Paul Tautges, "Counseling Parents of Special Needs Children." Association of Certified Biblical Counselors Annual Conference, audio recording, 2014. Available at biblicalcounseling.com
- D. Steve Viars, "Helping Families with Special Needs." Association of Certified Biblical Counselors Annual Conference, audio recording, 2018. Available at biblicalcounseling.com
- E. Steve Viars, *Your Special Needs Child: Help for Weary Parents*. New Growth Press, 2011.