

# ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.  
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

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## Freed from Addiction

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1*

Wherever one travels in today's world, whether to mega-cities or small villages, the scourge of addiction can be found. Even rural communities, once free of hard-core and prescription drug abuse, are no longer safe. Once strong family units now contend with the effects of illegal substances too readily available, and the resulting behaviors—lying, stealing, abuse, suicide—are devastating. Nations, such as Colombia, Afghanistan and Mexico, are battling against powerful clans and cartels who reap extraordinary financial gain from the trafficking of illegal drugs.

Alcohol, perhaps the most accepted drug, kills more than all other drugs combined, and is one of the three leading causes of death among 15 to 24-year-olds—cause to accidents, homicides and suicides. In Europe, alcohol contributes to one in ten cases of illness that lead to premature death.

Beyond drugs and alcohol, other types of addictions captivate souls in every generation: smoking, gambling, work, eating disorders, self-mutilation, technology, pornography, shopping and hoarding, to name a few. Whatever the addiction, the effect on the brain is the same: a need to satisfy powerful cravings that become increasingly demanding in a person's life, eventually overshadowing everything else. In fact, addictive substances and behaviors physically alter the brain—causing long-lasting effects. These changes interfere with one's ability to think clearly, exercise good judgment and control behavior. Addictions are often generational. Why would someone who grows to despise an addiction in a family member also end up using themselves? The answer is a spiritual one.

Addiction is the result of a stronghold. But we, as Believers, have weapons of divine power to demolish strongholds. (*2 Corinthians 10:4*) We are called to proclaim freedom to the captives and release from darkness to the prisoners. (*Isaiah 61*)

ASK for:

- **Breaking the strongholds that cause addictions** — *Proverbs 12:12, 21:22; Matthew 19:26; Psalm 35:13*
- **Opening of eyes from denial, freedom for captives** — *Isaiah 42:6-8, 61; 2 Corinthians 10:4*
- **Desperation, turning to God for help** — *Psalm 34:11-13, 53:2, 128:6; Isaiah 58:6-7*
- **Healing for the addicted and their victims** — *Job 5:18; Psalm 6:2, 41:4; Acts 4:30*
- **Protection over our youth and communities** — *Psalm 4:8; Hosea 2:17-19*
- **Awareness and wisdom for those confronting addiction in their communities and families** — *Mark 8:18, 10:51; Acts. 22:14; Proverbs 2:6*

...receive from Him  
anything we ask, because we obey  
His commands and do what pleases Him...

*1 John 3:22*



## Hope of the Nations: Bolivia to Pass Law Giving Rights to “Mother Earth”

*“In His name the nations will put their hope.” Matthew 12:21*



### *FAST FACTS ABOUT BOLIVIA*

\*Population: 10 million      \*People Groups: 43  
\*Religion: Catholicism-92%, Nature Worship

Bolivia is the world's 28th largest country (twice the size of Spain), with an area of nearly 1.1 million square kilometers. A landlocked country, Bolivia shares borders with Brazil to the north and east, Paraguay to the southeast, Argentina to the south, Chile to the southwest, and Peru to the northwest

The majority of the people consist of Quechua and Aymara natives. The main religion of Bolivia is Catholicism, but many still practice the native spiritualism of nature worship. Bolivia has always and still has much political upheaval in their country. The current president, Evo Morales, is a strong socialist and is pushing for some very controversial environmental laws for Bolivia.

“The Law of Mother Earth,” now agreed by politicians and grassroots social groups, redefines the country's rich mineral deposits as "blessings" and is expected to lead to radical new conservation and social measures to reduce pollution and control industry. The law has been influenced by a resurgent indigenous Andean spiritual world view which places the environment and the earth deity known as the Pachamama at the centre of all life. Humans are considered equal to all other entities. The New Law states that Pachamama, who is an earth goddess worshiped by some indigenous people of Bolivia, "is sacred, fertile and the source of life that feeds and cares for all living beings in her womb." It also says, “She is in permanent balance, harmony and communication with the cosmos. She is comprised of all ecosystems and living beings, and their self-organization.”

Bolivia's 11 new rights for nature include the right to life and to exist; the right to continue vital cycles and processes free from human alteration; the right to pure water and clean air; the right to balance; the right not to be polluted; the right to not have cellular structure modified or genetically altered; the right of nature to not be affected by mega-infrastructure and development projects that affect the balance of ecosystems and the local inhabitant communities.

It is time for the church to arise and be courageous in Bolivia. As one may see, this is very dangerous legislation. It is the Lord who prospers a nation. If they depart from the Lord, they will continue to fall further into poverty, physical and spiritual. There is a great need to pray for this country.

**ASK FOR:**

**Please pray that the Lord will prevail and Bolivia will worship the one true God who created the heavens and the earth and all that is in it.**

*Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, Exodus 20:3 You shall have no other gods before me, Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*