




# #36




## KILLER SINS



Controlled by  
the Spirit

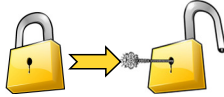




USING OUR  
GOD-GIVEN

# POWER

FOR VICTORY  
over "I CRAVE"  
(and other killer sins).




- ✓ We need to deal with **SPECIFIC SINS**, not just **VAGUE GENERALITIES**.
- ✓ This unlocks the way to **FREEDOM**.
- ✓ Union with Christ gives us the **POWER** to do this.

UNION WITH CHRIST...  
LIVING BY THE SPIRIT...

}

THE SAME RESULTS!


BOTH **EMPOWER** US TO  
DO WHAT IS **RIGHT**: TO LIVE **GODLY LIVES**!




- BOTH provide the power we need for change.
- BOTH provide the same life-changing results.

THIS IS ALL THE MORE REASON  
WE CAN MAKE THIS CLAIM:

★ "If we are saved, we will be willing to replace specific sins with specific virtues."



**A KEY CONCEPT**  
That unlocks the way to **FREEDOM**




UNITED WITH  
CHRIST


+

CONTROLLED BY  
THE SPIRIT

WHEN THESE ARE TRUE OF US...



➤ We will be willing to deal with real sins, not just vague generalities.



### THE HOLY SPIRIT: THE BIBLE DESCRIBES HIM IN MANY WAYS ...

**SOME OF HIS NAMES**

- ✓ Spirit of Yahweh (Old Testament name for God)
- ✓ Spirit of God
- ✓ Spirit of Christ
- ✓ Holy Spirit
- ✓ The Counselor

**SOME OF HIS SYMBOLIC DISCRPTIONS**

- ✓ Dove
- ✓ Wind/breath
- ✓ Fire
- ✓ Oil of anointing
- ✓ God's gift

**SOME OF HIS ATTRIBUTES**

- ✓ Spirit of holiness
- ✓ Spirit of life
- ✓ Spirit of glory
- ✓ The eternal Spirit
- ✓ Spirit of wisdom/understanding
- ✓ Spirit of grace
- ✓ Spirit of power

... BUT IT ALL REFERS TO  
THE SAME HOLY SPIRIT.

### Living by the Spirit – it's a relationship, NOT an emotion.

I DON'T FEEL  
SPIRIT-LED.



Emotions change, and  
must be moderated by reality.

THIS IS REALITY:

Why am I discouraged?  
Why so sad?

I will put my hope in God!  
I will praise him again—  
my Savior and my God!

Psalm 42:11 (NLT)

I'M TOO  
IMPERFECT  
FOR GOD TO  
SAVE ME!



**Romans 8:**  
Those who have been **UNITED with Christ\***  
**ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT!**

WHO controls God's people?  
 If the Spirit lives in you  
 (= controlled by the Spirit)  
 If he doesn't live in you  
 (= unsaved)

You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.  
 And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.  
 Romans 8:9 (NIV)

\*(This includes all who are saved.)

THESE 2 CONCEPTS ARE INTERRELATED!

Christ is in you.

The Spirit is in you.

Since Christ lives within you, even though your body will die because of sin, your spirit is alive because you have been made right with God.

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you.

Romans 8:10-11a (NLT)

You are **EITHER**: united with Christ AND controlled by the Spirit...

**OR**: you are not saved.

**COLOSSIANS 3:1-10 – LIVING AS UNITED WITH CHRIST!**

LAST WEEK

UNION WITH CHRIST MEANS A WILLINGNESS TO ...

- ✓ **CHANGE** the way we think and what we live for.
- ✓ **OPPOSE** specific sins (not just vague generalities).
- ✓ **REPLACE** those sins with godly conduct.

TODAY

**GALATIANS 5:16-18, 24-25 – LIVING BY THE SPIRIT!**

LIVING BY THE SPIRIT MEANS A WILLINGNESS TO ...

- ✓ **FIGHT** (and kill) our old sinful nature.
- ✓ **KEEP IN STEP** with the Spirit.
- ✓ **RECOGNIZE** the nature of specific sins (not just vague generalities).
- ✓ **LIVE-OUT** the results ("fruit") of the Spirit's presence.

➡

GALATIANS DEALS WITH 2 ASPECTS OF FREEDOM:

<u>SALVATION</u>	<u>SPIRITUAL GROWTH*</u>
<b>GOOD WORKS</b> doesn't result in <b>SALVATION</b> . (God's mercy and grace does that!)	<b>SALVATION</b> results in <b>GOOD WORKS</b> . (The presence of the Spirit does that!)
<i>We are no longer a slave to rules we can't obey!</i>	<i>We are no longer a slave to the sin that kills us!</i>

\* (The technical term is "sanctification" or "becoming holy" in our daily lives.)

CHRIST freed us, so we are to live by the SPIRIT.

SALVATION

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 (NIV)

Christ set us free, so that we could be **FREE!**

So don't try to go back into **SLAVERY!**

**The ISSUE for SALVATION:**  
 Are we going to trust Christ (and be free), or rely on works (and remain a slave)?

CHRIST freed us, so we are to live by the SPIRIT.

Don't go back to the slavery of sin!

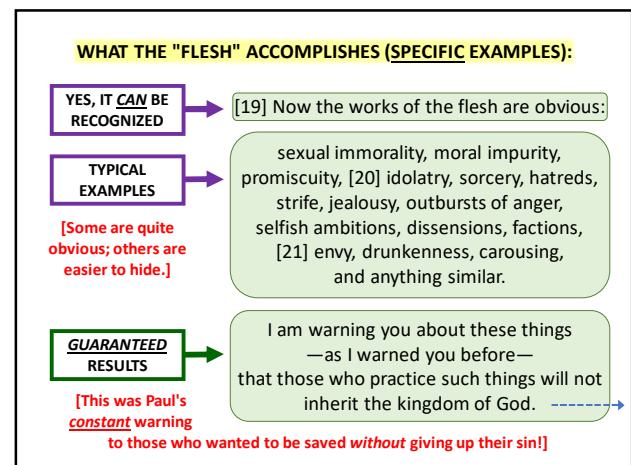
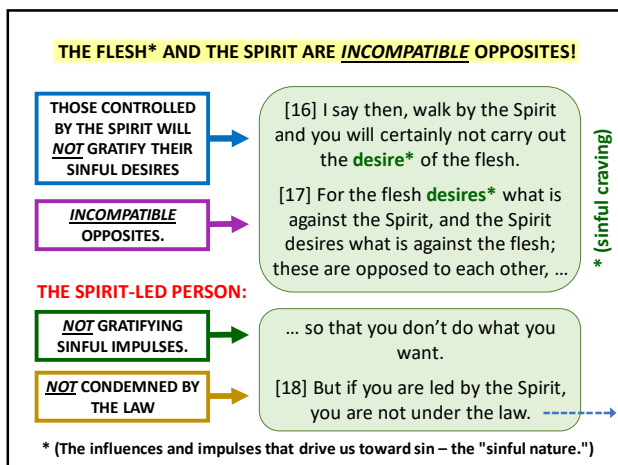
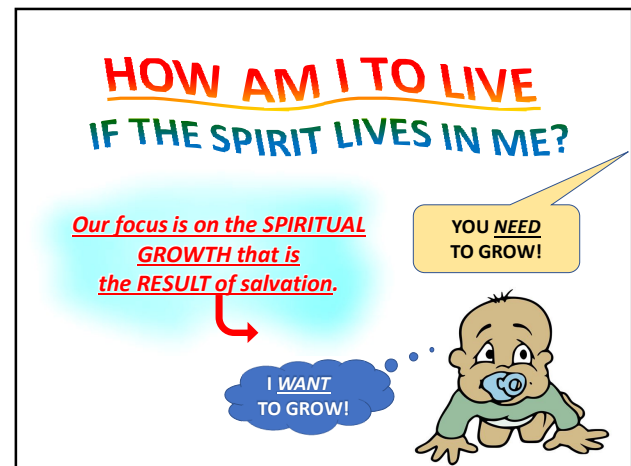
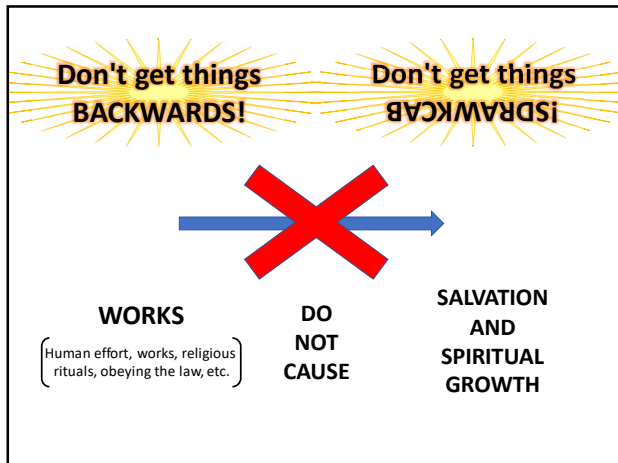
You are to **LIVE** by the Spirit's power!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

You, my brothers, were called to be **free**. But do not use your **freedom** to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.  
 So I say, live by the Spirit, ...  
 Galatians 5:13, 16a (NIV)

LOVE, not SIN, is the way of the Spirit who frees us!

Those who don't pursue this freedom (but choose slavery) are described as foolish (Galatians 3:1, 3) and deceived (6:7+).



**WHAT THE SPIRIT ACCOMPLISHES (SPECIFIC EXAMPLES):****TYPICAL EXAMPLES**

[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, and self-control.

[Unsaved people may have a shallow expression of these; but their fullness can only be found where the Spirit resides.]

**RESULTS: NOT CONDEMNED BY THE LAW**

The law is not against such things. ----->

**IF THE SPIRIT IS PRESENT:**

- ✓ Conduct that is prohibited by God's law will not be present.
- ✓ We will pursue good works that are compatible with the Spirit's fruit.

**"LIFE AND DEATH" ISSUES:****IF THIS IS TRUE OF YOU ...**

[24] Now those who belong to Christ Jesus ...

**... IT WILL INFLUENCE YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD SIN**

... have crucified the flesh with its passions and **desires\***.

\* (sinful craving)

When our flesh is crucified with Christ, the Spirit gives us new life.  
**CLING TO THAT LIFE!**

**IF THIS IS YOUR POWER TO LIVE ...**

[25] If we live by the Spirit, ...

**... THEN KEEP IN CONTACT WITH THAT POWER!**

... let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Scripture passage: Galatians 5:16-25 (CSB)

**ENCOURAGEMENT TO LIVE "SPIRIT-CONTROLLED"****HOW LOVE EXPRESSES ITSELF IN A COMMUNITY**

[= What happens when the Spirit is present.]

- ✓ Not self-focused (v. 26).
- ✓ Helping others to grow in the Spirit, done in a spirit of humility (6:1+).
- ✓ Self-examination, not self-exaltation over others (6:3+)

**ANOTHER WARNING**

- ✓ Your conduct **WILL** determine your eternal destiny.

**MORE ENCOURAGEMENT TO DO GOOD**

- ✓ Don't give up doing what is good (6:9-10)!

**WARNING: YOU CAN'T TRICK GOD; SO DON'T FOOL YOURSELF!****DON'T FOOL YOURSELF! YOU WILL GET THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR ACTIONS.**

[7] Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, ...

**CHOOSE TO SIN... GET DESTROYED.**

... [8] because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, ...

[= You will be a slave.]

**OR: FOLLOW THE SPIRIT'S LEADING... GET LIFE.**

... but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

[= You will be free.]

Scripture passage: Galatians 6:7-8 (CSB)

**CONCLUSION?**

**When the SPIRIT is present, just think of all the POWER God gives us!**

**THINK & LIVE!**

**AS WE LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, we can now...**

- ✓ **WALK** by the Spirit (and not walk into sin).
- ✓ Be **LED** by the Spirit (and not be under the law's condemnation).
- ✓ Have the **FRUIT** of the Spirit (with God's influence spilling-over into our "daily life").

**With all this power available ... we CAN'T fail! Unless...**

- ✓ We choose to fail, by **WALKING** a different way.
- ✓ We are **LED** by the devil's lie that we can't succeed.
- ✓ We let down our guard and abandon the Spirit's **FRUIT**.

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