**Part 5 – Make it Make Sense**

**Why do I still sin?**

**Sin means to miss the mark.**

**Romans 3:23**

**For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.**

**To miss God’s mark is to violate his moral law.**

**Mark 10:18**

 **“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone.”**

**1 John 1:10**

**If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.**

**Why do I still struggle with sin?**

* **You’re at war and you haven’t come to terms with it yet.**

**Romans 7:14-25**

**So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.**

**I don’t really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don’t do it. Instead, I do what I hate.**

**But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.**

**And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can’t. I want to do what is good, but I don’t.**

**I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. But if I do what I don’t want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.**

**I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God’s law with all my heart.**

**But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.**

**Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?**

**Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Galatians 5:17**

**The flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh.**

* **You keep struggling with that sin because you like it.**

**How can I overcome the sin in my life?**

**To overcome sin in your life, you must do what every good soldier does when going to war:**

* **Get in shape for the battle.**

**1 Timothy 4:8**

**For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.**

* **Pray over the battle.**

**Matthew 6:12-13**

**Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.**

**And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.**

* **Get dressed for the battle.**

**Ephesians 6:11-13**

**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.**

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.**

* **Fight sin to the death.**
* **Sin isn’t something to manage; it’s something to kill.**

**To go back to sin, after surrendering your life to Jesus, is to go back to death.**

**Colossians 3:4-8**

**When Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.**

**So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you.**

**Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.**

**You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language.**

**To return to sin after surrendering to Jesus is like walking back into the grave that He already pulled you out of.**

**Romans 6:1-3**

**What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?**

**Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?**

• Identify the triggers

• Replace the habit with godly ones

• Get help

* **Fight with the power only Jesus can give.**

**Ephesians 2:1-8**

**Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world.**

**He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature.**

**By our very nature we were subject to God’s wrath, just like everyone else.**

**But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!)**

* **Let the Holy Spirit guide your life.**

**Galatians 5:16**

**So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.**

**We don’t fight for victory — we fight from victory.**