

Grace: Session 5 Why Live Holy?

#1 Dead people don't sin. We live holy because it's who we are.

Romans 6:1-2 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may increase? God forbid! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?"

Corinthians 6:11 AMP "And such were some of you [before you believed]. But you were washed [by the atoning sacrifice of Christ], you were sanctified [set apart for God, and made holy], you were justified [declared free of guilt] in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the [Holy] Spirit of our God [the source of the believer's new life and changed behavior]."

#2 You are a slave to whom you submit. When you sin, it opens up a door to the enemy in your life.

Romans 6:15-16

You are yielding to a person, either Satan (via your flesh) or Jesus.

Romans 6:12-13

You have a choice in what you do with the unrenewed members, your soul and body.

Mortify = to kill; put to death

Deeds = the practices of the body = actions performed repeatedly or habitually

American Heritage dictionary defines mortify as "to discipline (one's body and appetite) by self-denial"

Romans 8:6 "To be carnally minded is death, but to spiritually minded is life and peace."

Galatians 3:24-25 "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster."

1 John 1:9

James 3:16 "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work."

#3 Sinning affects the way you love God and live for Him.

A) As a result of opening the door to the enemy, sin hardens your heart towards God and to the voice of the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 3:12-13 AMP "Take care, brothers and sisters, that there not be in any one of you a wicked, unbelieving heart [which refuses to trust and rely on the Lord, a heart] that turns away from the living God. But continually encourage one another every day, as long as it is called "Today" [and there is an opportunity], so that none of you will be hardened [into settled rebellion] by the deceitfulness of sin [its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication]."

1 John 3:21

B) Sin gives authority to your flesh instead of your spirit. Our flesh, our un-renewed soul and body, is not supposed to have a say because we are no longer in the flesh!

Galatians 5:13

Galatians 5:13 NLT "For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love."

Liberty is not for flesh indulgence, freedom is not freedom to sin, it's freedom from sin to life!

Romans 7:18

Romans 8:9

Born again believers are not "in" the flesh, but "in" christ. However, we can walk "after" the flesh as opposed to "after" the spirit; one is speaking to position while the other is speaking to behavior/lifestyle.

Romans 8:4-6 KJV "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

How do we walk after the spirit and not the flesh?

1 Corinthians 9:27 "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

Our spirit is supposed to be ruling over flesh!

Fasting is one of the easiest ways to see just how much your flesh is in charge vs. your spirit.

Galatians 5:19-21

It's the heart of God towards you that you would mature and grow.

Colossians 1:10 "that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;"

#4 Sinning affects our relationship with the world!

We are to be an extension and representation of grace towards the world. God's grace towards us enables us to be a witness to those around us.

Titus 2:11-12

1 John 3:16

Denying our flesh and saying no to sin isn't just about us; it's about the person watching us, the person benefiting from our walking in the blessing.

We need to close the door to sin and the enemy, be sensitive to the Spirit, and resist the flesh, and live holy because we are holy!