



FREEDOM

FINDING IT AND KEEPING IT

August 13th, 2017

TEXT: Romans 8:1-39 NLT

Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? - Romans 7:24 NLT

HOW TO OVERCOME MY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE WAYS (Part 1)

1. Overcoming Shame

Through Embracing What Jesus Did for Me

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. ² And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. ³ The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. ⁴ He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit. - Romans 8:1-4 NLT

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. - Romans 12:2 NLT

2. Overcoming Uncontrolled Thoughts

Through Adopting the Mindset of the Spirit

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. - Romans 8:5-8 NIV

3. Overcoming Compulsions

Through Learning to Say “NO!”

What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature. - Galatians 5:16 GNT

But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.)¹⁰ And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God.¹¹ The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.¹² Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do.

- Romans 8:9-12 NLT

4. Overcoming Fear

Through Turning My Thoughts to Abba

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.¹⁵ So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, “Abba, Father.”¹⁶ For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children. - Romans 8:14-16 GNT

For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead, his Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control. - 2 Timothy 1:7 GNT

My Next Step This Week...

- Memorize *2 Timothy 1:7*.
- Plan to get into a Freedom Group this fall, starting in September.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.