

# HARD

conversations  
with GOD

Can I live the way I want to  
and still be a Christian?

## Why Can't I Be a Christian & Live How I Want?

When you become a Christ follower, the Holy Spirit lives in you transforming your life from a life that lives for yourself to a life that lives for Christ.

# Why Can't I Be a Christian & Live How I Want?

1. You will continue to struggle with sin in your life, *Rom 7:5-6*

Truth: When you become a Christ follower, you were set free from sin to follow Him, *Rom 6:17-18*

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<sup>5</sup> For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

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2. You will have a desire to serve God, but you will live for yourself, Rom 7:15-19

Truth: Your human nature is weak so you will naturally live for yourself, Rom 6:12

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<sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup> So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

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3. You love God, but you will not commit to serving Him faithfully, Rom 7:21-23

Truth: God saved you from sin to live for Him, Rom 6:20-22

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<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.



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4. You are miserable because you know you are not following God, Rom 7:24-25

Truth: You must make a decision to be controlled by the Holy Spirit, Rom 8:5, 9

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<sup>24</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

## BOTTOM LINE

When you come to the end of your life as a Christ follower, God will judge you for what you did for Him, not what you did for yourself.