

JOHN 8:31–32 NIV

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said,  
“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.  
Then you will know the truth, and *the truth will set you free.*”

NEW LIVING TRANSLATION  
THE MESSAGE PARAPHRASE  
ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

“...If you *remain faithful* to my teachings...”  
“...If you *stick with this*, living out what I tell you...”  
“...If you *abide* in my word...”

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## TREASURE HUNTING...

### 1. EMBRACE \_\_\_\_\_

2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17 NLT

*All Scripture is inspired by God* and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize *what is wrong in our lives*. It corrects us *when we are wrong* and teaches us *to do what is right*. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

ON YOUR OWN: HEBREWS 4:12, PSALM 119:9-11

### 2. TRUST \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN 16:13 ESV

When the Spirit of truth comes, *He will guide you into all the truth...*

ROMANS 8:14 NIV

*...those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.*

### 3. CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

COLOSSIANS 3:16 ESV

Let *the word of Christ* dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs...

1 TIMOTHY 3:15 NLT

...the church of the living God, *which is the pillar and foundation of the truth.*

ON YOUR OWN: HEBREWS 3:13, PROVERBS 13:20

ON YOUR OWN: ROMANS 7:14–8:17 NIV

**{NOTE: PAUL BEGINS BY SPEAKING FROM THE STANDPOINT OF A PERSON WHO KNOWS ABOUT GOD & HIS RIGHTEOUS COMMANDS, BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST. THIS PERSON HAS A SINFUL NATURE & IS NOT A CHRISTIAN.}**

We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.<sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good.<sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.<sup>18</sup> For I know that **good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature**. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.<sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.<sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

So I find **this law** at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me.<sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law;<sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me **a prisoner of the law of sin** at work within me.<sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! **Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?**

**{NOTE: PAUL THEN STATES THAT THE ANSWER TO THIS TURMOIL IS JESUS!}**

<sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me **through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**{NOTE: EVEN THOUGH AN UNSAVED PERSON CAN DESIRE TO OBEY GOD, & EVEN BOUND TO, JESUS MUST CHANGE THEIR SPIRITUAL NATURE FOR THEM TO DO SO!}**

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but **in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin**.

**{NOTE: JESUS' DEATH & RESURRECTION SET US FREE FROM THIS TURMOIL!}**

<sup>8:1</sup> Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,<sup>2</sup> because **through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death**.<sup>3</sup> For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did **by sending his own Son** in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,<sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.<sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.<sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

**{NOTE: PAUL REPEATEDLY REMINDS US, AS BELIEVERS OF JESUS, WE BATTLE OUR FLESH, WHICH WE WILL HAVE UNTIL HEAVEN, BUT WE DON'T HAVE A SINFUL NATURE. WE ARE IN THE 'REALM' OF THE SPIRIT & MUST NOT 'LIVE ACCORDING TO THE FLESH'.}**

<sup>9</sup> **You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh** but are in the realm of the Spirit, **if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.<sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.<sup>11</sup> And **if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies** because of his Spirit who lives in you.

**{NOTE: EVEN THOUGH WE MUST BATTLE OUR FLESH, WE DON'T HAVE TO OBEY IT!}**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but **it is not to the flesh**, to live according to it.<sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.<sup>14</sup> For **those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God**.<sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."<sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are God's children**.<sup>17</sup> Now **if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.