Your Struggle is Normal, and There's Hope

Questions

1. What illustration, story or scripture had the greatest impact on you this week?

2. Read Romans 8:2. Paul reminds us that we have access to God's power in our choices as followers of Christ. When have you seen the power of Christ at work in your struggles?

3. Romans 8:2 says, "because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death." When you look at your life, what does it mean to be freed from the power of sin?

4. Pastor John talks about Romans 8:6 and the power of the Holy Spirit. When have you allowed your own willpower instead of the Holy Spirit to control your actions? How did it turn out?

5. Pastor John mentions that the sum of your choices reveals what is controlling you. What choices have you made lately that demonstrate who is in control (God or your own desires)?

6. "The aim in the Christian life is not perfection, but direction." Pastor John talks about how we can walk on God's path and work on getting out of the ditches of perfectionism and carelessness of sin. What are ways in your life where you can get back on the path of walking with God if you are on either side of the ditch?

Scripture References

Read Romans 7:21-25; Romans 8:1-2, 6; 1 John 1:5-9

Takeaways

6 Reasons to Not Quit in Your Struggle Against Sin

- Your struggle is normal, even universal

- Your victory is in Christ, and you can start tasting victory now

- Two powers. One choice: Which one is in control?

- When you feel hopeless you might be in the ditch of Perfectionism

- It's not about never stumbling. It's about getting up when you do, and moving forward

- Because God wants life for you, He invites you to walk in His life-giving Light.

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Weekly Action Step

Identify at least one person in your life that is stumbling and needs the encouragement of the Good News. Share with them how Christ has won the victory and his power is available to them in their struggles.