

Battling to make a difference

The internal and external battle that changes lives 1 Peter 2:11-12

Introduction

Galatians 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

#1 THE INTERNAL WAR you must fight 11

11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Receive Reclaim Reject

Romans 6:6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Ephesians 2:3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

Ephesians 5:3-5 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; 4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

1st Living Holy Spirit DEPENDANT

Galatians 5:16 walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

2nd Living Holy Spirit practiced DISCIPLINE

1 Corinthians 9:27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

3rd Living Holy Spirit encouraged DIRECTION

2 Timothy 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

#2 THE EXTERNAL EXAMPLE you must show 12

12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

1st To disarm hostile OPPOSITION to Christ and His bride

1 Peter 4:3 For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. 4 In all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you;

1 legalistic rule keepers

2 judgmental

3 hypocrites

2nd To lead to the CONVERSION of lost observers

Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

3rd To bring God the GLORY He deserves

1 - Realize you won't battle unless you remember you're LOVED

2 - Run from sinful desires by depending on God's SPIRIT!

Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

3 - Responsibly live a life of attractive DEEDS to bring God glory