

How to Recognize Spiritual Growth in You You Yearn for Spiritual Things

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – October 13, 2019

Romans 8:5-11

5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. 9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11 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 through his Spirit, who lives in you.

1. WE ARE IN A BATTLE

Romans 8:6

The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;

Galatians 5:17

... the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

Galatians 5:21

... those who live [by the sinful nature] will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 6:8

The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

2. CHRIST SETS US FREE

Galatians 5:24

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

Romans 6:6

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me...

HOW?

3. KEEP ETERNAL THINGS IN MIND

Romans 8:5

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

Colossians 3:1-2

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

2 Corinthians 10:5

... take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.