**Killing Sin**

**Romans 8:13** 13For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

**“**Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you.” –John Owen

The goal of the Christian life is to be like Jesus. The main thing keeping you from that is your sin.

**1. Pray – For Repentance & Help**

* **Repentance:** 1 John 1:8-98 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
  + Psalm 66:18 says, “If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.” So, if you are stuck in the love of your sin, your first prayer is for Jesus to deliver you from the love of your sin.
  + When is the last time you repented?
    - Matthew 6:12 “and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”
    - Matthew 3:8 8Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.
* **Help:** 1 Corinthians 10:13 13No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

John Bunyan said, “You can do more than pray, after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed.”

**2. Dwell on the Things of the Spirit (The Word of God)**

**Romans 8:5** 5For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

What the Word is:

* The Sword of God Ephesians 6:17 “the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."

What the Word tells us we are:

* We are Dead to sin. Romans 6:11(*let’s read the whole chapter*) 11So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.
* We are alive to God. Romans 6:11
  + Jesus saves us from the penalty, power, and one day, the presence of sin.
* We are God’s children. Romans 8:14 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Action Step:

* Memorize- a specific verse(s) dealing with particular sin...
  + Anger Example:
    - God’s Character - (Psalm 103:8) The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
    - Our Command - (James 1:19-20) Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.
    - Wisdom - (Proverbs 15:1) A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.
    - Exercise: Let’s do our own example. Someone throw a sin out there.

**3. Have Faith**

Galatians 3:5 5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith

* Think PLUG & OUTLET illustration. You cannot separate the Word of God from the Spirit of God. Put them together and that is the power to kill our sin.
* Romans 17:17b “The righteous shall live by faith.”

*What if you don’t have faith?*

Romans 10:17 “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

**4. Savor Jesus 2 Corinthians 3:18** 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. The secret to killing sin is to be delighted in Jesus. If you are filled up with Jesus there will be no room for sin.

* Anger example: Jesus calmed the raging storm in a word, He can do the same for you. (this one of the ways you apply step 4: Focus on Jesus and the truth of Him and His Person, and Power).

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of you heart.” Delighting in Jesus is the secret to life. Delight yourself in the Lord. He is our strength. And when we delight in Him, He changes our desires to match His and then He will gives us our desires…which will be to kill sin.

**5. Kill Sin at Redeemer Church**

Titus 2:11-14 11For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

*More than killing sin*

The other thing keeping us from being like Jesus is our active obedience to God’s commands. Do you know what the Word says? Do you know what God requires of you? God has a plan for your life, and that first includes you obeying what He has told you. In this way God’s will for all of us is the same. But He has a secret will that we don’t have a right to know about, for our own lives, that He will show us in time and we will most fully live if we are about killing our sin and actively obeying the revealed will of God.

Killing earthly lusts is not enough, nor, by itself, the attempt to live an obedient life. We need both killing and quickening, ceasing to evil and learning to do well. Isaiah 1:16,17 16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, 17learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause.

Do not give up fighting against sin; be on guard against growing cold to living a life of holy righteousness.