



Through the Cross Experiencing Freedom

1 John 1:7 (NASB®)

⁷ but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Exercise your authority

Renounce participation in devil's schemes

Confess sin

Forgive those who have offended you

I. Our Journey

A. Born into this world is physically alive & spiritually dead

Ephesians 2:1-2 (NIV®)

¹ As for you, **you were dead in your transgressions and sins**, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Colossians 2:13-14 (NIV®)

¹³ When **you were dead in your sins** and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

B. A Birth & A Bath

John 3:5-7 (NIV®)

⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, **'You must be born again.'**

1 Peter 3:20-21 (NIV®)

. . . in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

C. Temptation

1 Timothy 6:6-7 (NIV®)

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

Philippians 4:11-13 (NIV®)

. . . for **I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances**. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

- ❖ Temptation = the enticement to have legitimate human needs met through the world, the flesh and the devil instead of through Christ. Every temptation is an invitation to live independently of Christ.

Philippians 4:19 (NASB®)

¹⁹ And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

D. The Flesh/sinful nature

- ❖ You can never satisfy the desires of the flesh

Romans 8:8, 13 (NIV®)

⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

¹³ For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if **by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body**, you will live,

Galatians 5:19-21 (NIV®)

¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Matthew 5:6 (NIV®)

⁶ Blessed are **those who hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they will be filled.

Matthew 6:33 (NIV®)

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

E. Battlefield of the Mind

Genesis 17:16-17 (NIV®)

¹⁶ I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." ¹⁷ Abraham fell facedown; **he laughed and said to himself**, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"

Luke 12:16-20 (NIV®)

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. ¹⁷ **He thought to himself**, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' ¹⁸ "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And **I'll say to myself**, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" ²⁰ **But God said to him, 'You fool!**

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV®)

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

Philippians 4:6, 8 (NIV®)

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things.

F. Sin-confess-resist

Heavenly Father,

I ask for a spirit of wisdom and revelation that I may know You better. Holy Spirit reveal to me anyplace which I have tolerated anything which displeases You. I choose to forgive those who have wounded and offended me. My desire is to seek first the Kingdom of God and Your righteousness. I rejoice in Your great mercy and grace shown to me. Your blessings fill my life. You are my hope and my redeemer, Amen.

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