

“So, You Wanna Be Like Jesus?”

Text: Romans 7:14-25

1. We have “unpacked” 6 disciplines that need to be a part of our lives in order to move us toward “spiritual maturity” in our faith walk with Christ.
 - A. Intimacy – staying close to Jesus
 - B. Simplicity – uncluttering our minds
 - C. Silence & solitude – be still
 - D. Surrender – “let it go” – releasing our grips
 - E. Prayer – conversation with God
 - F. Humility – thinking less of ourselves

Romans 7:15; 18-19– **“¹⁵ I do not understand the things I do. I do not do what I want to do, and I do the things I hate. ¹⁸ Yes, I know that nothing good lives in me—I mean nothing good lives in the part of me that is earthly and sinful. I want to do the things that are good, but I do not do them. ¹⁹ I do not do the good things I want to do, but I do the bad things I do not want to do.**

2. Everyone has skeletons, and they don’t always stay in the closet. You want to do right but you do wrong. You want to CHOOSE _____ but you CHOOSE _____. Sometimes you’d almost swear you were a ‘split’ personality, a regular ‘walking civil war’.

Proverbs 25:28 - **“A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.”**

3. In his book, Pastor Swindoll says, “Let me paraphrase Proverbs 25:28 in today’s terms. **‘When we fail to _____ our desires – when we allow our natural inclinations to CONTROL us – we are like a bank vault with a screen door.’**
4. Failure to exercise the discipline of self-control is an open _____ for Satan to _____ us of ALL the good things we receive from God.
5. According to Romans 7-8 and Galatians 5, the problem can be boiled down to one, 5-letter word: _____.

Galatians 5:17 states: **“¹⁷ Our sinful selves want what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit wants what is against our sinful selves. The two are against each other, so you cannot do just what you please.**