

Reigning In Life Over Sin

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

You Are Alive to God

KEY VERSE:

Romans 6:11 -- "Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

REFLECTION:

I want you to grab hold of something this morning that changed everything for me. You are not who your past says you are. The moment you gave your life to Jesus, your old self died -- and a brand new person was raised up with Him. I'm talking about a resurrection that happened inside you. God doesn't see you through the lens of your failures. He sees you seated with Christ in heavenly places, far above every principality and power. That's not wishful thinking -- that's your actual spiritual address. When I began meditating on this truth, something shifted in how I carried myself. I stopped living like a defeated man. I started living like someone who had been raised from the dead. Because I have been. And so have you. Begin seeing yourself the way God sees you -- alive, free, and seated with Him.

PRAYER:

Father, help me truly see myself the way You see me -- alive in You, raised with Jesus, seated in heavenly places. Forgive me for living smaller than You intended. I receive my identity in Christ today.

DAILY ACTION:

Write Romans 6:11 on a sticky note and place it somewhere you'll see it all day -- your mirror, your dashboard, your desk.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

What You Focus On, You Follow

KEY VERSE:

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

REFLECTION:

I've said this to my congregation and I'll say it to you now -- the battle is almost always won or lost in your mind before it ever plays out in your life. What you think about, you drift toward. What you meditate on, you eventually move into. That's not a motivational quote -- that's Scripture. I've walked out of movie theaters because something wrong started showing up on screen. My wife thought I was being dramatic. I wasn't. I was protecting my spirit. See, I carry something holy inside me. So do you. And I'm not willing to subject what God placed inside me to something that poisons it. That's not legalism -- that's love. You love what God put in

you enough to guard it. Start being intentional today about what you allow your eyes, your ears, and your mind to sit with.

PRAYER:

Lord, help me set my mind on the things of the Spirit today. Show me anything I've been allowing in that's pulling me away from You, and give me the courage to cut it off.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one media habit -- a show, a playlist, a social account -- that consistently pulls your mind toward the flesh, and take a one-day break from it today.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

You Have the Power to Choose

KEY VERSE:

1 Corinthians 9:27 -- "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

REFLECTION:

Here's something I tell my people all the time -- the power of sin has been broken off you the moment you were born again. But a new power was given to you in its place. The power to choose. That's the gift. When temptation shows up -- and it will -- you don't have to white-knuckle it and hope for the best. You have genuine authority to say no. Paul wasn't just talking about the Olympics when he wrote this verse. He was talking about daily life. I bring my body under. Every morning I wake up, my flesh has opinions. It wants comfort. It wants shortcuts. It wants to react. And I have to look it square in the eye and say, no, we're not going in that direction today. That discipline, repeated over time, is what builds a life that reigns instead of one that just survives.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I thank You that the power of sin is broken in my life. Help me exercise the power to choose today -- to choose Your way, Your word, and Your will over what my flesh demands.

DAILY ACTION:

The next time today you feel a fleshly reaction rising -- irritation, jealousy, impatience -- pause, take one breath, and say out loud, "I choose the Spirit."

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

Holy Living Is Not Optional

KEY VERSE:

1 Thessalonians 4:7 -- "For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness."

REFLECTION:

I'll be straight with you, the same way I am with my own congregation. God did not call you to a life of spiritual mediocrity. He didn't call you to grease through on greasy grace, living the same way this week as last year. He called you to holiness. Now I know that word can feel heavy or religious, but it doesn't have to. Holiness simply means your life is increasingly set apart for God -- in your speech, your choices, who you spend time with, what you pursue. I've had to walk away from friendships where all we did was tear other people down. I love those people, but I love what God placed in me more. That's not pride -- that's stewardship. You are responsible for the spirit God put inside you. A holy life is not a perfect life. It's a life that keeps choosing God, keeps course-correcting, keeps saying yes to Him.

PRAYER:

Father, I don't want to settle for a life of compromise. Call me higher. Help me want what You want -- a life genuinely set apart for Your purposes and Your glory.

DAILY ACTION:

Think of one relationship or environment that consistently pulls you toward compromise. Pray specifically over it today and ask God for wisdom about healthy boundaries.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Present Yourself to Righteousness

KEY VERSE:

1 Thessalonians 4:3 -- "For this is the will of God, your sanctification."

REFLECTION:

I love that this verse cuts right through every question about God's will for your life. You want to know His will? Here it is -- your sanctification. Your being set apart, made whole, growing in holiness. One of the most practical things I've ever taught my people is this: you present yourself either to sin or to righteousness by what you do with your time and your body. Go where you shouldn't go, watch what you shouldn't watch, hang with who drags you down -- you're presenting yourself to sin. But get in the Word, serve in your local church, go share the gospel with someone who needs it, be the hands and feet of Jesus to a hurting person -- you're presenting yourself to righteousness. Our lives should be so caught up with helping people, blessing people, and lifting people that we simply don't have time for nonsense. That's not restriction -- that's the fullest, freest life you can live.

PRAYER:

God, I present myself to You today -- all of me. Use my hands, my time, my gifts, and my voice for Your kingdom this week. I want my life to count for something eternal.

DAILY ACTION:

Do one concrete act of service this weekend -- direct traffic, help a neighbor, visit someone lonely, or sign up to serve in your local church in any capacity.