

# Power Over Sin, Part 3

## Power Over Sin, Part 3

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

---

#### Based on the teaching by Pastor Mirek Hufton

---

#### 1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek Hufton continued his series on sin, emphasizing that disobedience to God brings delay while obedience and yielding to the Spirit brings acceleration and promotion in every area of life. He explored Romans 6 and 8 to show that through Christ's death and resurrection, believers have been set free from sin's dominion and are now called to actively walk according to the Spirit rather than the flesh. He challenged the congregation to take a far more adversarial position toward sin, recognizing it as a real enemy that opens doors to the devil and robs believers of the inheritance God has prepared for them.

---

#### 2. KEY SCRIPTURE

##### James 1:21 (NKJV)

"Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

---

#### 3. ICE BREAKER

Think of a time when you had to deliberately block something out -- background noise, a distraction, a bad habit -- in order to focus on something important. What did that feel like, and did it work?

---

#### 4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

##### 1. Opening the Conversation

Pastor Mirek pointed out that sin causes life to slow down -- that disobedience to God brings delay, while obedience brings acceleration. Have you ever noticed a season in your life where things seemed stuck or stalled? Looking back, do you think there could have been a connection to choices you were making at the time? How did things shift when your heart posture changed?

---

## **2. Going Deeper into the Word**

In James 1:21, the pastor highlighted two movements happening at the same time -- laying aside filthiness and receiving the Word with meekness. He described meekness as a quiet, humble, fear-of-the-Lord kind of spirit. Why do you think both of those movements are necessary together? What happens when someone tries to receive God's Word but hasn't dealt with attitudes of rebellion, bitterness, or pride? Have you experienced the Word "bouncing off" you during a difficult season?

---

## **3. The Word as a Two-Edged Sword**

Pastor Mirek referenced Hebrews 4:12 and described the Word of God as living, powerful, and sharp -- but also noted that it divides between those who receive it with humility and those who resist it. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, Paul says the preaching of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but the power of God to those being saved. Why does the same message land so differently on different people? What is it about the posture of our hearts that determines what we actually receive from God's Word?

---

## **4. Spirit vs. Flesh**

He described the Spirit-led life as one where you literally dodge the bullets of temptation -- but the moment you step into fleshly thinking, the hits start landing. Romans 8:5-6 says 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 does "setting your mind" actually look like in a practical, daily sense? What habits, environments, or relationships help you stay Spirit-minded, and which ones tend to pull you back toward the flesh?

---

## **5. Responding to Temptation Quickly**

Pastor Mirek was direct about the need to respond to temptation immediately -- not to mull it over or entertain it. He used the picture of Jesus in the wilderness, rebuking the devil the moment he spoke, not sitting with the thought. Where in your own life do you tend to linger over tempting thoughts or situations rather than shutting them down quickly? What would it look like to build a faster, more decisive response to those moments?

---

## **6. Identity and the Spirit**

One of the most striking things Pastor Mirek shared was the idea that your identity must be rooted in who you are in Christ, not in your ministry, your role, your reputation, or your emotions. He said decisions made from that secure identity lead to life, while decisions made from fear, hurt feelings, or self-centeredness lead to death in some form. How does having a clear, settled identity in Christ actually help you resist sin? Where do you still find your identity getting tangled up with things that shift or disappoint?

---

## **5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE**

This week, choose one specific area where you know you have been mulling over a temptation, a bitter thought, or a fleshly attitude rather than cutting it off quickly. Write it down privately, then take a deliberate action to break its hold -- whether that is speaking it aloud in prayer, confessing it to a trusted accountability partner, spending fifteen extra minutes daily in the specific Scripture that addresses it, or physically removing yourself from whatever environment feeds it. Come back next week ready to share (as much as you are comfortable) what that one intentional step looked like.

---

## 6. PRAYER POINTS

- For humble, receptive hearts: Pray that every person in the group would develop the meekness James 1:21 describes -- a heart that is genuinely open to the Word of God, free from the rebellion and pride that shut down what God wants to speak and do.
  - For accelerated freedom: Pray that areas where sin has caused delay in members' lives -- relationships, finances, health, purpose -- would now begin to experience the acceleration that comes through genuine obedience and yielding to the Holy Spirit.
  - For Spirit-led discernment: Pray that each person would grow in their ability to recognize the difference between Spirit-led decisions and flesh-driven reactions, and that they would have the courage to act on what their renewed spirit knows is true, even when their emotions push back.
- 

## 7. MEMORY VERSE

### **Romans 8:1 (NKJV)**

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

---

Encourage your group to read Romans 6-8 on their own this week. Even a chapter a day will open up the freedom Paul is describing in a whole new way.