



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Discovery 201** – Our next Discovery class is 201, scheduled for Sunday, September 24th at 3 pm. Learn the basic habits all Christ-followers need to become spiritually mature. Be equipped with the skills and tools to begin and continue these habits. Sign up on the App or website or email Rene Snyder at rsnyder@southwinds.org with questions. Childcare and a light meal provided.
- **MEN'S RETREAT** – Join the Southwinds Men for an overnight retreat in Tracy, Friday night Sept. 29 – Saturday morning Sept. 30. Great food, worship & inspiring message, tournaments, swimming, campfire chats, s'mores & lots of laughs. Cost is \$25.
 - Bring a tent to camp out on the lawn or sleep at home and join us back in the morning!
 - Sons are welcome to come along.

MY STORY

If someone was to ask you to describe yourself, what would you tell them?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Have a Volunteer Read: Romans 6:11

Point #1: Think: CONSIDER YOURSELF ALIVE TO GOD.

"Paul says we're to consider that we are in Christ Jesus. We're united to Christ. So how do we consider this reality Paul's describing? It means we believe or have 'done this math' about the power of sin over those who are in Christ. It means we see our sin and temptations in light of Christ's defeat of sin. We're commanded to think about and believe what is in fact true about ourselves. We are dead to sin and alive to God. Paul says, 'Is this how you see yourself?'"

– **Mike Nolen**

How do we “consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God”?

Have Another Volunteer Read: Romans 6:12

Point #2: Stop: DO NOT LET SIN REIGN.

7 Reasons why we should take sin seriously.

- Sin, by its very nature, is a corruption of God’s will and ways.
- Sin numbs our love for God.
- Since sin is selfish, when we sin it reinforces our selfishness.
- Sin also causes us to us to push people away, and so we don’t hear the words we need to hear.
- Sin harms our relationships with others as we sin against them.
- Sin lies about the goodness of God to others who are watching our lives.
- Sin steadily erodes our love for God as slowly as it possibly can in order to maximize the amount of life we waste.

Why should we take our battle with sin seriously?

Have Another Volunteer Read: Romans 6:12-14

Point #3: Start. PRESENT YOUR LIFE TO GOD.

“The ‘I’m not feeling it’ feeling is the front lines of the battle, not an excuse from the battle. ‘Not feeling it’ is not an excuse from the battle. It is the very battlefield itself. These sinful desires then go on to leech and run rampant into all areas of our life.”

- **Michael Nolen**

“When we have a desire well up for anger, or lust or bitterness, or holding a grudge or getting drunk or high or whatever. We must choose to not obey or coddle or stroke those desires. Some will say that’s legalism. It’s not Legalism says, ‘Here’s what I must do to be made right with God.’ But we know we’re justified by God through faith in Jesus and being justified, we must not let sin reign in our bodies, given what’s at stake.” – **Michael Nolen**

Why is putting sin to death in our life not a form of Christian legalism?

“The only way to dethrone a sinful desire in your life is to replace it with a bigger, better desire. It’s the only way. What this mean practically is that there are no games we get to play with God, otherwise we’re going down. It means we need to give ourselves afresh to God every day. It means we must my grace in humility seek him every day. Make sure our souls are regularly being fed on God’s Word, that we’re getting on our knees in prayer and in praise, asking for protection. We’re not missing a corporate gathering of the church without a really good reason.” – **Michael Nolen**

“It means we leverage singing as a means of grace, another avenue of bringing truth into our life. It means considering his immense worth and his infinite excellencies. It means surrounding

ourselves with life giving relationships, because those who we surround ourselves with impact us far more than we recognize. It means reading the best books because we are finite, and there's not enough daylight or nightlight hours to read garbage. Do not let sin reign by making you obey its sinful desires. Say yes to God implanted desires for God, and fan them into flame.”
– **Michael Nolen**

If sin operates through our desires, how do we cultivate Godly desires?

APPLICATION

Is there any sin in your life that the Lord is inviting you to fight by faith today?

PRAISES

PRAYER REQUESTS