

It is essential to unite the life and teachings of Jesus with the resurrection of Jesus. 1 Corinthians 15:3-11

Jesus gave his life for me, so he could produce new life in me. Galatians 2:20, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Mark 8:34-37

The struggles we all face:

We don't need more desire or knowledge, we need power. Romans 7:15-20

When Jesus conquered death, He validated His message. Most importantly, it was what He taught about God the Father, and His love for you.

My Prayer: *Jesus I believe you are who you say you are. I accept your gift of forgiveness that you offer me. I believe I have new life in you. I commit to put my total trust in you and to share my life with you daily.*

Food for Thought

Talking through the message with someone during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

In Romans 7, Paul is extremely open about his struggles in living the Christian life. Re-read Romans 7:15-25 and then answer the following questions.

Is there anything surprising to you about Paul's struggles?

Are there any situations or circumstances in your life where you experience the same battle as Paul did?

Was there anything you heard in the Message that would be helpful to you in winning this battle?

Galatians 5:22-23 contains a list of nine qualities that are called “the fruit of the Spirit.” Often we focus too much on what our part is in producing this fruit. What insights into your role in bearing fruit do you see in the following quote?

“I believe there is a reason Paul listed these virtues and moved on. They aren’t given to us as goals to pursue. Why? Because you and I cannot produce fruit...that’s not our responsibility. The Holy Spirit is the producer. We are merely the bearers. The fruit of the Spirit was never intended to be a demonstration of our dedication and resolve. It is the evidence of our dependency on and sensitivity to the promptings of the Spirit.”

Charles Stanley in *The Wonderful Spirit-Filled Life*

How does John 15:1-6 help you better understand our role, God’s role, and Jesus’ role in fruit bearing?

PRAYER TIPS:

Use these prayer tips to talk it over with God:

- In prayer, confess those areas of your life where you need God’s forgiveness. You can speak plainly and honestly to God.
- Commit to trusting God daily with everything you carry.
- Ask God to make his pretense known to you.
- Speak the truth of what God has done for you to encourage your spirit.

Look at the chart below that compares what the cross and the empty tomb mean for our walk with God. Does this list change any of your perceptions about living as a Christ Follower?

THE CROSS (Redemption) His death for me...	VS	THE EMPTY TOMB (Regeneration) His life in me...
Allows me to become a Christ follower		Allows me to be the Christ follower I’ve become
Changes my final destination		Changes my destiny
Makes heaven my home		Makes this world His workshop
Got me out of Hell into Heaven		Got God out of Heaven and into me
Forgave my sins		Gives me power over sin
Was once for all		Means my daily dying to self