

Spirit-Controlled Living vs. Sin Controlled Living

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” Psalm 139:23-24

| Spirit-Filled Mind | | Sins of the Mind | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Forgiveness Hope Appreciation Willingness Impartiality Self-Control Mercy | Humility Thankfulness Confidence Wisdom Faithfulness Gratitude | Unforgiveness Evil Thoughts Covetousness Greed Lust Arrogance Senselessness Spitefulness | Pride Ingratitude Selfishness Deceitfulness Heartless Faithless Conceited Idolatry |
| Spirit-Filled Emotions | | Sinful Emotions | |
| Love Peace Gentle Spirit Gladness Joy | Long-suffering Kindly Spirit Patience Compassion Hope | Hatred Rebelliousness Bitterness Envy Bad Temper | Anger Unloving Attitude Jealousy Malice Rage |
| Spirit-Filled Mouth | | Sins of the Mouth | |
| Truthfulness Thankfulness Gentle Answer Encouragement Tact | Praise Timeliness Soothing Tongue Pleasant Words | Lying Complaining Provoking Strife Boasting Gossiping Harsh | Slandering Disputing Backbiting Argumentative Insulting Unwholesome Talk Obscenity Course Joking |
| Spirit-Filled Behavior | | Sins of Behavior | |
| Kindness Righteousness Obedience Goodness Courage Endurance Considerate Compassionate | Gentleness Cooperation Sincerity Servant Spirited Submissive Impartiality Self-controlled | Fornication Adultery Drunkenness Murder Rioting Showing No Pity Dissention builder Violence Favoritism Disputing Argumentative Harshness | Brutality No Self-control Stealing Violence Disobedience to parents Brawling Lovers of pleasure Favoritism Sexual Immorality Lewdness Greed Unloving Gluttony |

Six Steps in the Process of Repentance

Step 1

Confess, "I am wrong. I have sinned."
I need to understand I am wrong because I sinned against God's standard.
JOHN 3:19-21

Step 2

I say to God, "I am sorry. I have sinned."
You must have Godly sorrow that leads to repentance, which leads to "turning" from your sin.
2 CORINTHIANS 7:9-11

Step 3

I Ask, "God forgive me of my sins."
Claim: Jesus dies for our sins to make the free gift of forgiveness available to us. Just receive it.
1 JOHN 1:9

Step 4

I Ask, "God, cleanse me of my sins."
Don't just try to do penance such as crying, getting depressed, or hurting yourself. Walk in the ways of God.
1 JOHN 1:7

Step 5

I Ask, "God, empower me."
Don't just try to be self-disciplined and act as a Christian should act-that is the counterfeit appearance of God's cure. Ask Him to replace you sin with the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
GALATIANS 5:22-23

Step 6

Ask the people that have been negatively impacted by your sin to forgive you.
COLOSSIANS 3:12-13

Personal Reflection

1. For the next seven days, read Psalm 139:23-24 and let the Holy Spirit reveal any sin in your life that has negatively impacted your marriage. Using the "Spirit-Filled Living vs. Sin Controlled Living" worksheet, circle each sin that the Holy Spirit brings to your mind.
2. For each sin you circled, complete the six steps of repentance.

As a Couple

1. What are your main take-aways from the sermon?
2. Share your personal reflections with each other.
3. Determine at least one action step you will take toward becoming CLOSER as a couple.

BONUS CHALLENGE:

Once you've determined your action step, share it with us by emailing marriage@rpcstaff.org. We will enter you in a drawing to win registration and hotel lodging (2 nights) for the Weekend to Remember Marriage Getaway (choose Plano Renaissance Dallas at Legacy West, June 5-7, or Las Colinas Omni Mandalay Hotel, November 6-8.) Get more information about the event at rpc.fm/weekendtoremember.