

## DOING LIFE TOGETHER

9. Why do we need to take such a severe attitude toward our sin? What are some practical ways we can remind ourselves that sin is not our master, but our gracious God is?

10. How does knowing you can depend on God for victory over sin help as you live out your new identity in grace?

11. As a growth group, what responsibility do we have to one another in this effort? What step can we take toward self-control together as a group?

### Prayer Requests

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Nov. 1, 2015

Sermon Notes

Celibacy—Choice, Gift, or Impossible?

Romans 7:14-25; 8:1-4

1. A Choice to be M\_\_\_\_\_

1 Corinthians 7:1-9,25-40

Matthew 23:25

2. A Gift to be A\_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 19:10-12

Matthew 12:46-50

Matthew 19:24-26

2. N\_\_\_\_\_ is Impossible W\_\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 5:23; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

Colossians 3:5; Romans 8:13-14

Galatians 5:24

Celibate L\_\_\_\_\_ requires the Spirit's W\_\_\_\_\_  
and Our O\_\_\_\_\_

*What do I need to do with what I have heard today?*

## **GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK**

November 1, 2015

### **THINKING THINGS THROUGH**

1. In the sermon this week, George talked about how controlling one's passions is the main issue a person faces when it comes to a life of celibacy. Which of George's points resonated with or challenged you?

2. What are some ineffective ways you have tried to control your passions (sexual, emotional, or otherwise) in the past? What did you learn about yourself and about the power of sin in the process?

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

READ ROMANS 7:14-25.

3. In these verses, Paul described the believer's struggle with the lingering presence of sin in a very personal way. To what extent do you identify with the struggles Paul expressed in these verses?

4. What is the inevitable outcome if we try to gain victory over sin just by trying really hard, or by obeying a certain law? What are we saying to God when we do this?

5. In the midst of Paul's testimony about his struggle with sin, Paul stopped to thank God (v. 25). What do you have to be thankful for as you fight against sin's powerful pull? How can gratitude, despite our struggles and defeats, empower you for the future?

READ ROMANS 8:1-4.

6. In the midst of Paul's frustrating struggle that he described in Romans 7, what was Paul's hope? How do we live according to the Spirit?

7. What are the key differences between a life in sin and death and a life in the Spirit (vv. 2-3)? What characterizes each of these ways of living?

8. Look again at the good news promised in Romans 8:1. How are we described in this verse, and what difference does that distinction make in our daily struggle with sin?