

Good morning! Do you struggle with sin? Each of us, if we are honest, have a sin problem. Some people may not acknowledge it, but the problem is there, whether or not they even believe in sin. If we are trying to live for Jesus, we have to face the fact that we are "missing the mark". I know my weaknesses but I still fail in overcoming them. Does the Bible have anything to say about this? Yes! Today, let's look together at a passage that really resonates with me:

And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 7:18-24 NLT

I know, right? Here, in his letter to the Christians in Rome, in the finest theological book ever written, Paul lays it out clearly: *"I want to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway."* Can you identify with that? How can I overcome this failure? What's the solution? Paul gives us the answer: *"Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord."* OK, so what does that mean? How does Jesus help us to resolve this issue? First, He has broken the *power* of sin. Second, He has taken upon Himself the eternal *consequence* of sin. Finally, He has *forgiven* my sin. Even though I continue to war against the sin that creeps so easily into my life, Jesus protects me. He helps me and sometimes I succeed. But when those times come when I don't succeed, His forgiveness covers me. This morning, take time to thank God for the indescribable gift of His own dear Son, Jesus Christ. He has seen your failure and made provision for it...and that is really Good News!