



I CAN WALK IN VICTORY OVER SIN!

Every great superhero story has a villain, and every villain has a vested interest in exploiting the weak spot or Achilles' heel of the hero. Just as Lex Luthor wields kryptonite as a weapon to neutralize and defeat Superman, you and I have an enemy who prowls like a lion, looking for ways to devour God's beloved (see 1 Peter 5:8). Our enemy is a student of our behavior, seeking vulnerable areas where he can attack us. Because of this, many Christians have grown discouraged under his schemes in places they feel prone to sin, even saying things like, "I'm only human." But here's the reality: if you are a believer in Jesus Christ, you're not *only* human. You're an eternal being with the Holy Spirit of God residing in you. You are *superhuman*. At the cross, Jesus redeemed every part of you — even your Achilles' heel! That "old" weakness isn't truly *part* of you anymore. It is really outside of you, looking for an opportunity to gain reentry. You are now Holy Spirit driven, and *he* has no weakness. So while you have been called to "be alert" against your enemies' schemes and to continually yield to the Holy Spirit's leadership in your life, you have been given all you need to walk as "more than a conqueror" over temptation, sin and old addictions, over mindsets and patterns that used to trip you up. You do not have to bow to the "old" man/woman you were anymore. Jesus says that he has cut that away from you and that you can now live in freedom from **anything** that would seek to bind you. The villain's kryptonite no longer holds any power over you.

"Our *old self* was crucified with Him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should *no longer be slaves to sin* — because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe we will also live with Him!" Romans 6:6-8 – Emphasis added.

"I have been *crucified with Christ* and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me!" Galatians 2:20 – Emphasis added.

"Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry...*you have taken off your old self* with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator!" Colossians 3:5, 9-10 – Emphasis added.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. *The enemy is a student of our mindsets and behaviors. What temptations or substances has the enemy been trying to use to trip you up? What areas or thoughts seem "vulnerable" to the enemy's attack or schemes?*
2. *Are there any that are still a struggle? If so, these could be evidences of strongholds in your life that need to be broken. Be honest with God about these struggles and ask him to reveal their source. See Appendix 4 and 5 in "Life in the Overflow" for more direction on how to walk in complete freedom. It **is** yours!*

WORSHIP RESOURCE:

“If you are the Light, then God please open up my eyes to see you shine!”

Listen to “The Light” by Emberlasting. Find more info about their album at the back of the devotional.

PRAYER:

Father God, I repent of any places I have listened to or followed the “old” self you set me free from. I am not that person anymore! I submit my will, my desires, my thoughts, my ambitions and my dreams to the control of the Holy Spirit. I choose to focus on you and desire to hear you more clearly. Reveal every scheme of the enemy and show me the way to walk in freedom. Help me to walk in the fruit of self-control. I renounce sin and its desires to destroy my life. I am no longer a slave to sin; instead, I am free and alive in Christ. Help me walk in your victory today!

LISTENING TIME:

Stop for a few minutes and ask the Lord what he wants to say to you. He might bring to mind a picture, a word, a song, an encouragement, a Scripture or an answer to a burden in your heart. Don’t rush or feel pressure to figure out the meaning of your impressions. Just invite him to speak and draw or write down what you sense. Afterward, ask God to help you discern and understand what he is saying to you. You might want to ask other trusted friends in the Kingdom for their input as well.

USE THE FOLLOWING SPACE TO RECORD WHAT GOD IS SAYING



TOOLS FOR FAMILY DEVOTIONS:

Ask, “What should we do when we feel bombarded by temptation to do something that isn’t part of our true identity anymore?” Parents, encourage your kids to come to you in areas of temptation so you can help and cover them in prayer. Pray for each other.

TOOLS FOR PRAYING FOR OTHERS:

Read 2 Timothy 2:25, 26. Bind the enemy from taking your loved ones captive to do his will and pray that they will hear the Father’s call and realize their true identity and the destiny that he has for them.