

In Progress: Spirit, Soul & Body - The Will -

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

- When my identity is secure and I am convinced I'm loved and accepted by God, I can choose to love God, and to love and accept others.
- When my mind is renewed and filled with God's truth, I can choose to live to glorify Christ by living the values God is developing in me.
- When my emotions are being healed, I can choose to care and have compassion for others who are also in progress.

Memory Verse: "For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him."- *Philippians 2:13*

"To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open up the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God."
-*William Temple, a late Archbishop of Canterbury*

1. I choose to surrender my will to Christ as a response to understanding He made me, He loves me and His purpose for me is to obey Him and love others. Total surrender means I live with open hands and offer every moment, thought and activity to God, dedicating my life in service to God. *Romans 8:56; Matthew 26:41; Romans 7:15; Romans 8:11-14; Acts 20:22-24; Romans 12:1-2*

2. I choose to care about what God cares about by loving Him and loving others the best I can. God cares about the lost being saved, and His bride the church becoming unified and strong. We practice caring by giving ourselves to the body of Christ in fellowship and mutual care. *Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:4-13*

3. I choose to live in such a way that honors Christ and brings Him glory and fulfills His purposes for me. Romans 11:36; For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Next week's reading guide:

Psalm 63:1-8; Matthew 5:27-30

Psalm 84:1-7; Matthew 10:26-33

Romans 6:1-18; 1 Corinthians 10:23-33

2 Corinthians 5:1-10; Galatians 2:20-21

1 Corinthians 6:12-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

2 Corinthians 5:1-10; Colossians 1:24-29

James 3:1-12; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Discussion Questions:

1. When it comes to your sinful nature, what is the most consistent battle you fight? What God-value can you practice doing to overcome it?
2. In what area of life do you need to live more open-handedly toward God?
3. How much do you care about the things God cares about? The lost? His bride, the Church? Discuss how you practice caring for these.
4. Since receiving Christ, share one way you live differently for His glory.