

Free Yourself from Sin – Part 2

Introduction:

1. Conflict is a part of life. There is no way to avoid it. It is inevitable.
2. Biblically, how do we resolve conflict?
 - First, we must answer the question, “Is this worth fighting over?”
 - Second, we must examine ourselves and see how we may have contributed to the conflict.
3. Once we begin to see how our own wrongs have contributed to a problem, we must seek to free ourselves from sin, if we are to have any hope of resolving the conflict.
4. This process involves three basic steps:
5. Through this three-step process, God has provided a way to obtain forgiveness, clean up the past, and change undesirable patterns of behavior.

Repentance

Confession

Personal _____

1. The third step in dealing with sin is to work with God to change our future behavior.
2. When others see us striving to _____ our sinful attitudes and actions, this brings validity to our repentance and confession. Proverbs 28:13; Ezekiel 14:6, 18:30; 1 Thessalonians 1:9
3. Godly _____ is so important that the writers of the New Testament devoted a great deal of attention to it. In one epistle after another, God describes the qualities He wants us to develop. 2 Peter 1:4-8; Colossians 3:5-14
 - It is important to understand – people can _____!
4. Let’s look at four basic ingredients that combine to create personal change:

First, _____

- The qualities that God wants us to develop in our lives are sometimes referred to as “*the fruit of the Spirit.*” Galatians 5:22-23
- A Christian cannot cultivate spiritual fruit apart from God’s active assistance.

- *“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.”*

John 15:4-5

Second, _____ on the Lord

- *“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”*

2 Timothy 2:22

Third, _____

- The Bible emphasizes the close connection between transformed _____ and personal change. Romans 8:6, 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:22-24
- Regular time spent in God’s Word helps us to _____ and guard against sinful habits that compel us to behave in destructive ways.
- The more we study the Bible and carefully absorb what we learn, the more we will be conformed to the image of Christ. 2 Timothy 2:15, 3:16-17

Fourth, _____

- Ephesians 4:24 commands us to *“put on the **new man**.”* This means we have to practice what we are _____. Philippians 4:9
- We do not put on Christ-like character by _____. It will only happen through dedicated practice. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, 1 Timothy 4:7
- In 2 Timothy 2:22, the word “_____” means “to strive after; track down; or hound.” As we strive to put on the new man, we don’t give up. We are persistent.

In Conclusion:

1. To be an effective peacemaker, we must deal honestly with our own faults.
2. As we get the _____ out of our own eye, we will be better prepared to help others and resolve conflict.