

Sunday Service ~ November 30, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

As we begin our service of worship this morning let's remind ourselves of the great God we are coming before. So I am going to start off with a reading from Psalm 46. *"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.' The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."* (NIV)

Prayer God our Refuge, when human resources fail, you alone remain our sure hope and defence. In the knowledge of your love, grant us courage. We place ourselves in your hands, confident that nothing can separate us from your love. We praise you for Jesus, the Living One, the First and the Last, who was dead, but now is forever alive. Help us, who have not seen, to believe; send us, as you have sent Jesus, to greet the world with the Easter word of peace and to share with all the Spirit's new life of forgiveness. We ask through the Lord Jesus, our Passover and our Peace, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Song –Blessed be your name [\(18\) MATT REDMAN - Blessed Be Your Name \(Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#)

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| <p>1. Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name
Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name</p> <p>Chorus:
Every blessing You pour out, I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name</p> | <p>2. Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name</p> <p>Chorus</p> <p>Bridge x2
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name</p> <p>Chorus</p> |
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Bible Reading – Romans 7:1-13 (NIV)

"Do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law has authority over someone only as long as that person lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound

to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to him. 3 So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man. 4 So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. 5 For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. 7 What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead. 9 Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. 10 I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. 11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. 12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good. 13 Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful."

Announcements

Focus for Month: Service. Why is service so important to the Christian? Because it was so important to Jesus "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jesus' life giving service for his people should encourage us to serve those God has placed around us in our homes, work places, neighbourhood and Churches. So how can you improve your serve?

Kids Church Presentation – Next Sunday 7th December 2025 @ our Charlestown morning service. Come along and support the work of our young people as each class presents an item, each child receives a prize and all the people who have served in our Kids Church ministry are thanked and prayed for.

Lords Supper will be on Sunday 14th December instead of our normal Sunday 7th December.

New City Catechism:– Question 49 Q: Where is Christ now? Christ rose bodily from the grave on the third day after his death and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling his kingdom and interceding for us, until he returns to judge and renew the whole world. Bible Reading: Ephesians 1:20–21 "He raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come."

Funds for fitout. If you indicated that you would like to help finance the proposed fit out, then please note that our Church bank account is (BSB 062 829, A/c 1019 4850). Please mark "Building Project in the description) If anyone else would like to make a contribution toward the rest of the fit out (some \$38,000) that would be greatly appreciated!

Help Needed. We are hoping to get the keys for the new redevelopment before Christmas. At the same time, we are hoping that some of the fitout that we have arranged can also be done before Christmas. That will leave, cleaning, gardening, painting and then moving back in. The key thing will be the painting. The more help we get the quicker we can move in. So in the next couple of weeks, we will be organising a number of work days. We would appreciate even in this busy time if you could find some time to help us finish off our work and enable us to get back into our buildings as soon as we can. More details soon.

Please note!

- **JOY** – Friday 5th December 10-11am @ Belmont 16 footers. All welcome.
- **Church Camp** 6-8th March 2026. Tahlee. Rego open soon.
- **Swansea Ladies Morning Tea** 8th December 10am. Channel Cafe

Next AM Sermon Series: Romans 1-8 ~ God's Unstoppable Gospel

14.12 **Life in the Spirit!** Romans 8:1-17

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Chad (Population ~ 19 million, Christians ~ 8 million) Recent unrest has seen a spike in the abduction and killing of Christians. Ask God to protect Christians who live in areas vulnerable to Boko Haram attacks. Pray for God to encourage Christians in Chad, particularly converts from Islam. Pray for believers in Chad to be safe and strengthened as they meet.

Pray for Steve & Sandra Parsons. Martin Chensee to provide.

Pray for the Sunday @ 6 Congregation. Praise God for the many young people (and older people as well) who come each week to Church. Thank God for the weekly small groups and that there is a real keenness to grow in their knowledge of God and in their godliness. Give wisdom to Audric, Luke (young adults worker), Jannah (future young adults leader) and all those who organise camps, socials, social media, videos, welcoming, and pastoral care. Pray that those who are coming to hear about Jesus would have their eyes opened and their minds engaged with God's word. Thank the Lord especially for all the young men coming.

Pray for Darwin and parts of the Northern Territory affected by Cyclone Fina. Praise God for the protection he gave to many residents in the Top end. Pray for those who have lost so much due to devastating winds that came their way. Pray for relief efforts to give help and support to those who need it. Pray that the Lord would use this moment to turn hearts to Christ, our sure refuge and our unfailing hope.

Bible Reading – Romans 7:14-25 (NIV)

14 "We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 18 For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. 21 So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin."

Song – Fight the good fight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YppcFC8mxKM>

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| <p>1. Fight the good fight with all your might.
Christ is your strength and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.</p> | <p>3. Cast care aside; lean on your guide.
God's boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and your trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.</p> |
| <p>2. Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up your eyes, and seek Christ's face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.</p> | <p>4. Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.
God changes not, and you are dear.
Only believe, and you shall see
That Christ is all in all to thee.</p> |

Sermon – How can I really change? (Stephen T)

Sermon link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41fINh83nNM>

In 1999, after years of occupation, the people of East Timor voted overwhelmingly for independence. It should have been a moment of celebration — a nation finally set free. But what followed wasn't peace. For the forces that once ruled refused to accept defeat. Towns burned. Guerilla militias fought back. The people were free on paper but there was still plenty of fighting on the ground. If you remember, Australia then led a peacekeeping mission, INTERFET, to restore what had already been declared: freedom. It took courage, time, and sacrifice — but eventually peace took hold, and the nation could begin to rebuild.

Slide 2

That's a picture of what Romans 7 is all about. For in Romans 6 Paul has told us that the Christian has been set free from sin, but here in chapter 7, he admits that the battles is still raging within him. You see freedom from sin doesn't equate to victory over sin. The penalty of sin is taken away but not its presence. Isn't that your experience, because it sure is mine.

I've been a Christian for 40 years, two-thirds of my life. Over that time most days I've spent time with God in prayer and reading the Bible. I've have read countless Christian books, I have done theological courses, I have been set aside by the Church, been a minister for 31 years. And yet I have to confess to you today that I am still to win the victory over my sin.

Now really, I know I didn't need to confess that to you, because you already know that, all of you have unfortunately experienced this already. You know that I say words that are thoughtless at times, words that have hurt you. You know that I am selfish at times, thinking only of what's in for me, not you. You know that I have let you down. For I am not the person I should be. I try hard. I want to be different, I'd love to be perfect, but I am just so far short of perfection it is no laughing matter. And to be honest, I will always be so.

Slide 3

As John Newton once said, *"I'm not the person I ought to be, I'm not the person I want to be. I'm not the person I hope to be, but still I am not what I once used to be."*

But this only raises a huge issue. How can I change? How can I get rid of my sin? If Jesus is now my Lord and Saviour, if God has justified me, how is He going to sanctify me, change me, make me holy? Well Romans 7 will give us the answer to that question & it begins with

Slide 4

1. (Being) Set Free (verses 1-6)

*"Do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law has authority over someone **only as long as that person lives**? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband **as long as he is alive**, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to him. 3 So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man."*

Paul's main point here is that the law only binds those who are alive and death is something that breaks the law's power over us. For example, a marriage. That is a binding relationship but only when both the husband and the wife are alive. If either die, both are freed from the law of marriage. So, a wife whose husband dies is free to remarry without committing adultery. Because the law binding her to her first marriage is now null and void.

Slide 5

*4 "So, my brothers and sisters, **you also died to the law** through the body of Christ, that you might **belong to another**, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. 5 For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore*

*fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, **we have been released from the law** so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code."*

What Paul is pointing out to us is that the Christian is no longer married to the law because his old life has died. Instead, he has been made alive due to his union with Christ which means they are now married to another, Christ. With the result that the law can no longer tell us what to do. The law can no longer compel us to follow the rules. Prior to our conversion it did just that and that just showed up our weaknesses, our failings, our sins. Now we have a new way. That at its heart is about being united to Christ, married to Christ, filled with the Spirit of Christ that leads to a whole new way of life.

Slide 6

So, for the Christian who wants sanctification, a real change in their life, its no use going back to our old husband. It no use placing ourselves under the power of rules & regulations, either from our nation, from our Church, from our family, even from the 10 commandments! For they might be able to tell us what is right but they can't make us do the right thing! For godliness is not about following rules, ticking boxes, making new years resolutions or trying harder. It will only come to us via a new way, the Spirit, who is given to us by Christ Jesus.

In the same way that after independence, East Timor wasn't completely free from Indonesia, so our freedom from the power of sin is not yet complete. But it has begun. And we need to remember that. Our old way of life is dead. The power of the law over us has been broken. And the Spirit is now available to us because we are married to Christ. More on that later.

But what that means is we need to stop measuring our worth by what we have done. We need to stop being paralysed by guilt when we have done the wrong thing. We need to not allow shame to rule us when we have been caught doing the wrong thing. Instead, we need to run to Christ and thank him that I am not the person I once was. And sing praises to him that I am no longer ruled by my sinful nature, I have found my place, my home with Jesus.

So, what that means for me is that I shouldn't look to myself to be able to live the life that God wants me to live & I shouldn't wallow in guilt when each day I let him down yet again. Instead, I should be amazed that Jesus wants to live in union with me, 24/7 & have as my one & only aim in life is asking what can I do that would please him? What would Jesus do?

Slide 7

2. Set Free but Sin Seizes (verses 7-13)

7 "What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law." The law is not a bad thing, Paul now tells us, it's just that under the power of sin, the law, a good thing, can end up driving us down the road to death. For the law firstly defines sin for us.

Paul says we wouldn't know what sin was if it wasn't spelt out for us. Now that makes sense. Without speed signs, I wouldn't know what a safe speed to drive my car really was. But when I pass a 60-kilometre sign, I now know what right and wrong looks like for that part of the road. And that is especially true of God's law. That's why Paul continues, *"For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."*

Without a standard, you and I don't know whether we are meeting that standard or not. And God's law defines sin by giving us that standard as well as revealing sin by showing us that we are all breaking that standard. *8 "But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead. 9 Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died."*

You see the law did more than just define sin for us and reveal sin in us it also stirred up sin within us. It seized a part of our sinful nature and used its power over us to drive us down that highway to hell. For there is something within us, our sinful nature that has a bias toward sin. Just as a bowls ball can't go straight, but curls toward the inside, so we have an inward bias. Our lives are always directed toward doing the wrong thing and the law is powerless to stop us. That is why our Federal Parliament has been making laws for over 125 years, yet every session it meets, it talks about enacting new laws.

Don't we have enough laws yet? No, because we keep finding a way around the current laws. You see, Law is powerless to change us. Look at the Tax Act. Its huge, it made up of thousands of pages and it's getting bigger and getting bigger each year. Law is good at pointing out sin, but bad at making us stop sinning.

Slide 9

11 "For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me & through the commandment put me to death. 12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good. 13 Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful."

Slide 10

Sin uses something good to bring about a bad outcome. Think for a moment about a smart phone, it is such a great device, giving communication and information at your fingertips. But the social media algorithms can lead you to some really unhelpful places. And its addictive nature can mean you waste lots of time doing unproductive things. The smart phone is a good thing but it can be used by our sinful nature to do really bad things. In the same way the good law can be used by our sinful nature to seize us & provoke us to sin.

In the same way that even after East Timor was declared free, small guerilla forces kept fighting. Freedom had been won, but the old powers refused to let go. Kidnapping some, standing over others, taking the freedom away from others still. And that is what our sinful nature does inside of others, it will use even good things to gain back control of our lives. It doesn't like that we have a new husband in Jesus and it wants to gain back control over us.

Slide 11

So, with my struggle with sin, I need to realise my biggest enemy isn't what people do around me or what life throws at me, my biggest enemy is the remnant of sinful nature which is still living within me. My sinful nature is conducting a guerrilla warfare within me. So, I need to be awake to the danger, understand my enemy and remember to keep leaning on Jesus. Keep being in step with the Spirit. Keep looking for his power not my own.

But even if I do that there will be a struggle within me. Actually, the more I do that, the more there will be a struggle within me. Just for a moment think of two spies that are captured by their enemy, who will go through more struggle and pain, the one who confesses to what they have done straight away or the one who holds out no matter how much torture they endure? It's the one that doesn't give in that has the bigger struggle. Which is why Paul now opens up his inner thought life and tell us of the tremendous struggle that he has been going through and what he continues to go through

Slide 12

3. Struggle (verses 14-23)

14 "We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do, I do not do, but what I hate, I do. 16 And if I do, what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me."

Now many preachers and commentators are confused about this section of Romans 7. How could the great apostle Paul have such a conflict going on within him? This is one of the greatest men of the New Testament and he is saying he still is a slave to sin, that sin is still living in him, that he does exactly what he doesn't want to do? That can't be Paul, he must be talking about when he wasn't a Christian or when he was just a new, immature Christian.

But the tense in Romans 7 is the present and the use of the word I continually points to the fact this isn't a weak Christian talking here or even a non-Christian, this is the experience even of the most mature of Christians. Paul may have died to sin. He may well be enjoying union with Christ. But there is still a struggle in the heart of this believer. A struggle between two egos, two laws, two cries and two types of slaveries.

Slide 13

And I want to tell you I am not immune to that type of struggle either. When I am tired or upset I can come home and find Satan attacking me in my weakness. I often know what the right thing to do is but then I struggle to want to do the right thing and sometimes I give in to my own selfish desires. And if I am not immune, I'm pretty sure neither are you. As someone has said Paul must have been a golfer because every golfer knows what they want to do and very rarely are they able to do it.

Slide 14

18 "For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it."

Do you get what he is saying? There is a war going on inside of the believer, even the most mature believer. We've changed sides — but the old habits, old desires & reflexes don't surrendered easily. We want to serve our new King, but we feel the pull of the old regime. We have a new husband in Christ, but it is so easy to go back and have a fling with the old one! And that's why often we don't make much progress with our godliness. Because we are yoyoing back and forth between the two natures inside of us.

Slide 15

When East Timor was struggling with its independence and the presence of the old enemy, the United Nations sent in a peace keeping force. And that didn't solve the problem straight away. There were still sporadic outbreaks of violence. It wasn't constant, but it was real — moments when people wondered if the peace would ever last. But slowly, order returned.

Freedom had already been declared; now it was being established, town by town, heart by heart. That's how change happens in us. It's not instant victory; it's ongoing transformation. The Spirit is advancing His peace, pushing back the old guerilla forces of sin. And the sinful nature is pushing back with a guerilla attack seeking to reinvade our hearts.

Slide 16

It's a Jekyll and Hyde situation. Most of us are well familiar with the novel "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", by Robert Louis Stevenson. It's a classic novel about "Right and Wrong." "Joy and Despair." "The struggle of Good and Evil." Robert Louis Stevenson was once asked, "Where did you find the model for your character of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." He said, "I found it in my own nature... I find that there is always a struggle with the "beast that lives within me."

So, I think we can learn somethings here that will help us in this struggle. Firstly, no matter what stage of the Christian life you are in, there will always be a struggle. It never gets easier. There is no simple formula that you will one day discover. No silver bullet that makes holiness so much easier. In fact, the more mature you are, the more you will see the sin inside of you and the more you will probably struggle. Dead people don't struggle with sin. It's only when you resist the devil does he double the barrage against you.

Slide 17

But this passage is also a great comfort to us. We are all going through the same struggle. And rather than being discouraged by the presence of the sinful nature still within you, see it as a sign of life, that the Holy Spirit is bit by bit doing His work within you. And that should lead us to cry out to our...

Slide 18

4. Saviour (verses 24-25)

24 "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin."

This struggle should make us cry out deeply for help for our situation. I can't bring about the changes I want to bring about. I can't make progress in holiness by myself. Following rules, trying harder, surrounding myself with a support group may all be good things to do but they just won't enable me to win the battle on my own. I'm going to need resurrection power to raise up this new life within me. I am going to need Jesus my Saviour's help.

Just as when East Timor cried out for help, peacekeepers came to restore what had already been declared — freedom. And they didn't come to judge, but to bring order and peace. And bit by bit that provided the power, the muscle, the authority to drive back the enemy, so that's what Jesus does in your life. He steps into the battlefield of your heart, not to condemn, but to secure the victory He's already won.

Slide 19

When you feel defeated, he comes in and gives you new victories. When you need the strength to start again, he provides us with all the strength you need. He doesn't change everything over night but bit by bit, he changes us, so that you may not be the person that you will one day be, but you are also not the person you were just years ago either. And the truth that unlocks that spiritual power is also found in this passage. It is union with Christ. That Jesus is now your husband, your ...

Slide 20

5. Spouse (v.4,6)

*4 "So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you **might belong to another**, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that **we might bear fruit for God**." We now belong to another. We are no longer married to sin but married to Christ. The closest relationship that is available to us as human beings is the picture that all human beings, whether married or single can enjoy with Jesus. From now until eternity.*

Slide 21

He is the one who will love you, protect you, honour and keep you in sickness and in health as long as you both live. So Christian growth is not about trying harder or doing better, its staying close to Jesus. Reading his word, praying to Him, worshipping Him, walking with His people and allowing his Spirit to produce the fruit of the Spirit in us - the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

As the branch is connected to the vine and through the vine the resources come to grow the fruit, it is our relationship with God, our closeness to Jesus, that will bring about real fruit, lasting fruit in our lives. And that will lead to serving in the new way of the Spirit. Slide 22

*6 "But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law **so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit**, and not in the old way of the written code."*

The old way was an external law saying you have to do this. The new way is an inward transformation which means we obey because we want to. For we are married to Christ. We see how special a relationship we have with him, what the cost of that relationship was for him to give it to us and we are filled with thankfulness to him. More and more we want to live his way. We want to please him. We want to become

like him. Obedience becomes a joy because it flows from love not from a command.

Slide 23

Friends, change is hard. Even as Christians, we often ask, “*Why do I still struggle?*” Romans 7 reminds us that while we’ve been **set free** from the law, sin still tries to **seize** control. So we feel the **struggle** inside — the battle between the flesh & Spirit. But there is hope. Paul cries out, “Who will rescue me?” and answers, “Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!” Real change doesn’t come from trying harder, but from trusting deeper. Christ, our **Saviour**, gives us the power to win. The victory has begun — and one day, it will be complete.

There is no 10-step programme to follow. There is no mystical experience that will fast track it. There is no guru who will teach it to you. The only place to find it is in Jesus. He gives us the Spirit and that changes everything as we will see next week. But until then and for all eternity cling to Christ and let him do the work in you that you and I can’t do ourselves.

Song – Cling to Christ [Cling to Christ • Official Lyric Video on Vimeo](#)

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| <p>1. Father, I can come to You
And boast of deeds I've done
In my pride I strive to earn
The favour Christ has won
He alone pleads my acceptance
All my works aside
So I come with empty hands
And I cling to Christ</p> | <p>Chorus
It's more than I can do
It's more than I can do
To keep my hold on You
But all my hope and peace
Is that You cling to me</p> |
| <p>2. Father, I can go astray
And battle needless fears
Voices tell me I'm condemned
And that I can't draw near
But Your Spirit calls me homeward
With Your words of life
Jesus bore my every sin
So, I cling to Christ</p> | <p>3. Father, all my earthly aims
In time will turn to dust
Let me learn that loss is gain
For those who know Your love
All the treasures of this world
Will never satisfy
You alone are endless joy
So, I cling to Christ</p> |

Benediction. “Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!” (Romans 7:24-25)