

ABOUT STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Question:

Pls guys it's long but pls take time to read all through

Hi everyone, I'm a boy of 18yrs (details omitted)

I've never told anyone this my problem before, I really never want backslide again. Pls if there is any advice u have for me pls say it really love u guys so much!

Response:

Hello there.

I'm sorry to hear this trouble that you have. However, it is not nearly as uncommon as it may seem to you. Every single Christian stumbles no matter how great or mature they are. Of course, the more mature a Christian gets, the less they stumble into gross sin like the one you are complaining about here. This is why it is very important for Christians to make it a point of duty to grow up spiritually.

It is a joy to hear that you take your Bible-reading and prayer seriously. Not many Christians today take it as seriously as you do, and it is tremendously important. However, Bible reading and prayer are only one part of the equation. Spiritual growth comes from taking pains to learn the Bible in-depth from a gifted and prepared Bible teacher. Reading your Bible is important both so that you can see for yourself what it is that God says, and so that you can be sure that what the teacher is telling you is actually true. But growing spiritually will simply not happen unless you commit to learning the Bible under one teaching ministry that feeds you substantive and correct Bible teaching.

As you grow, like I said, you will find it easier to give up sinful habits and adopt godly ones. If you don't grow, it remains a very daunting daily battle that will constantly rob you of your joy and peace. To be clear, it will never cease to be a daily battle, but spiritual growth and maturity does make it easier to win more often.

None of us will ever be perfect in this sinful body, but we can reach a very high level of sanctification, if we are willing to fight for it with spiritual growth.

I really hope that this gives you hope and that it stirs your zeal to follow after the Lord. If it does, I very highly recommend <https://ichthys.com> where I learned and continue to learn. There are several Bible studies written up there in a systematic and exhaustive way that will open the Bible up to you. You can start small with the Peter series and work your way up. There is also a systematic theology there that captures the main doctrines of the Bible so that you can appreciate how the Bible works.

Besides Ichthys, which is very heavy on text with only audio versions of the text as the multimedia available there, there is also www.bibleacademyonline.com. This one is also highly recommended, and is a video ministry. If you prefer that media, you can use it instead. The important thing is not whether it is video or text or audio or even who the teacher is. It is that you get the Truth straight. These two teachers are people that I highly recommend. But the choice is up to you whether it is one of them or it is somebody else entirely outside of the two of them.

Whoever you choose from wherever, never lose sight of your Bible. Keep it close to make sure that your teacher is telling you the Truth about what God says.

I will say a prayer here for you. I would also be very happy to help in any further way you need me to.

Grace be with you.

PS.: In the meantime, when you fall into sin, just confess your failure to the Lord, and get up and keep running. Don't allow a false sense of guilt to cripple you and cost you your zeal for God. We ought never to sin, but the Lord is always ready and willing to forgive us when we confess our sins. He will still discipline us so that we grow in our fear of Him, which guards us from sinning foolishly against Him in the future. But everything I said in the foregoing is the only way to actually deal with this decisively.