## The Ark Church Wednesday, March 11, 2020

**Stewardship**: Luke 6:38 Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use it will be measured to you again. NKJV

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## **CHOICES**

Romans 7:14-15 For we know that the Law is spiritual, **but I am carnal**, sold under sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do."

Carnal – Things related to the needs of the physical body rather than the spiritual body, as in the desire for food, sexual gratification and material possessions.

Romans 8:1-4 NKJV There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are **in Christ Jesus**, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For the Law of the **Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus** has made me free from the **Law of Sin and Death.** For what the **Law (of Moses)** could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, **that the righteous requirement of the Law of Moses might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit** 

Romans 8:6 KJV For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 8:6 NIV For to **set your mind** on the flesh is death, but to **set your mind** on the Spirit is life and peace.

Galatians 5:16-17 (Amplified) But I say, walk and live (habitually) in the Holy Spirit (responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit) then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh (human nature without God). 17) For the desires of the flesh are opposed to the Holy Spirit and the desires of the Spirit are opposed to the flesh (godless human nature); for these are antagonistic to each other (continually withstanding and in conflict with each other), so that you are not free but are prevented from doing what you desire to do). 18. But if you are guided (led) by the (Holy) Spirit, you are not subject to the Law.

Ephesians 2:1-3 NKJV And you *He made alive,* who were dead in trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked according to the <sup>[a]</sup>course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, <sup>3</sup> among whom also we all once

conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.)

Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

## **Steps to Good Choices**

- 1. Understand your new identity in Christ Jesus:
  - 2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.
- 2. Understand we have an enemy who wants to take us captive. He does this through our wrong thinking and wrong speaking, which lead to wrong choices.

2 Cor 10:3-4(NIV) Though we live in the world we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

- 3. Pay attention to your thoughts and emotions and take hold of those leading you to poor choices and pull them down and replace them with thoughts from the Word of God.
  - 2 Corinthians 10:5.NIV We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ.
- 4. Don't concentrate on your weakness. Concentrate on what the Word of God says about you. You empower what you concentrate on or focus on.

Philippians 4:13 (Amplified Classic) I have strength for all things in Christ who empowers me (I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency).

5. Put the Word of God in Your mouth – What we think about becomes what we talk about. Put the Word of God, God's promises in your mind and mouth rather than fear and unbelief.

Proverbs 18:21 NKJV Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat it's fruit.