

“HOW TO GET WHAT YOU REALLY WANT: DON'T BE DECEIVED”

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WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IT'S TRICKY

- 1. IF WE ALWAYS GET OUR WAY, WE WILL LOSE OUR WAY.**
- 2. IF WE ALWAYS DO WHAT WE WANT TO DO, WE WILL END UP WHERE WE DON'T WANT TO BE.**
- 3. IF WE GET WHAT WE WANT NOW, WE MAY NOT GET WHAT WE REALLY WANT LATER.**

WHAT WE WANT IS WHAT WE VALUE.

- 1. CHOOSING WHAT IS VALUABLE IS UNNATURAL.** (Romans 7:15-16, 18-19 NIV)

I do not understand what I do. (v15a)

For what I want to do I do not do, but what I Hate I do. (v15b)

And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. (v16))

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. (v18)

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. (v19)

- 2. WHAT WE NATURALLY WANT IS OFTEN IN CONFLICT WITH WHAT WE ULTIMATELY WANT.**

When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, ²¹envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19-21NLT)

¹⁴but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

¹⁵Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. (James 1:14-15)

MEMORY VERSE

Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. (James 1:16)

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵Thanks 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. (Romans 7:24-25 NIV)

GOING DEEPER

1. What do you really want?
2. What is dragging me away?

3. How long do I plan to let what I naturally want to drag me away from what I ultimately want?