

**“LIVING FOR MORE: FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT;
SELF-CONTROL: RESPONDING IN THE SPIRIT OF GRACE”
11/18/2018**

1. OUR RESPONSE TO SIN IS TO...

- a. **STRIVE**- TRY TO WILL MY WAY (King Saul)
- b. **DISMISS**- EXCUSE IT (Genesis 3:12, Exodus 32:21-24)

A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls. (Proverbs 25:28)

A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back. (Proverbs 29:11)

ELEPHANT AND THE RIDER



Definition: The physical, mental, spiritual and emotional self-regulating, particularly in situations of intense provocation or temptation.

2. ACCEPT YOUR SIN, HUMBLE YOURSELF AND BE VULNERABLE

- a. **STOP STRIVING**
For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
(Matthew 16:25)
- b. **STOP DISMISSING**
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:8)
- c. **OWN IT**

MEMORY VERSE

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

3. RECEIVE HIS FORGIVENESS

He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. (Ephesians 1:7 NLT)

³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in

mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—.....

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:3-5,8-9)

4. EXAMPLES OF SELF-CONTROL

- a. **Joseph** (Genesis 39:7-12)
- b. **David** (1 Samuel 24:1-7; 26:7-12; 2 Samuel 16:9-10)
- c. **Jesus being mocked** (Matthew 27:27-30)

5. TOP TO BOTTOM RESPONSE

⁸Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. ⁹Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. ¹⁰That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:8-10 NLT)

GOING DEEPER

- 1. WHAT IS THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM OF YOUR LIFE THAT MAKES YOU FEEL INSECURE WITH SHAME OR FEAR?
- 2. WHAT IS YOUR TYPICAL KNEE JERK REACTION?
- 3. TAKE TIME TO RECEIVE FORGIVENESS AND ADDRESS THE ELEPHANT IN YOUR LIFE.
- 4. PRACTICE THINKING TOP TO BOTTOM.