Putting Sin to Death

Colossians 3:1-5

The New Testament leaves no doubt that holiness is our responsibility.

If we are to pursue it we must take some <u>decisive action</u>.

a. We must, through the power of the Spirit, put to death the deeds of our sinful nature.

Romans 8:12-14

b. We must put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within us.

Colossians 3:5

WE MUST DO IT – BUT WE CAN NOT DO IT ALONE!

The crucial question is, "How do we destroy the strength and vitality of sin?"

I. WE MUST HOLD STRONG CONVICTIONS!

- A. We must be convinced that a holy life is God's will for every Christian.
- B. We must be convinced that the pursuit of holiness is worth the effort and pain required to destroy the strength and vitality of sin.
- C. We must be convinced that without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:14

D. We must develop convictions in areas of obedience.

These convictions are developed through EXPOSURE TO THE WORD OF GOD.

Romans 12:1,2

Only through God's Word are our minds remolded, and our values renewed.

The question we must ask in a serious pursuit of holiness is this:

Am I willing to develop convictions from the Scriptures, and to live by those convictions?

John 14:21

Obedience is the pathway to holiness,

but it is only as we have His commands that we can obey them!

A. God's word must be so strongly fixed in our minds that it becomes the Dominant influence in our thoughts, attitudes and actions.

II. WE MUST HAVE ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT.

Luke 14:33

We must honestly face the question,

AM I WILLING TO GIVE UP A PRACTIVE OR HABIT THAT IS KEEPING ME FROM HOLINESS?

1 John 2:1-5

The whole purpose of Hohns letter is that we do not sin!

Make it your aim, not to sin!

Don't make it your aim not to sin – very much!!!

There is no point in praying for victory over temptation

if we are not willing to make a commitment to say no to it!