

September 20, 2020

Dear Parents,

The flesh wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the flesh desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. (Galatians 5:17)

Students experience many joys and many frustrations. One frustration I remember from my own teen years, as a Christian young person, was the struggle with not measuring up to what I knew God wanted me to be. Sometimes I was on track, studying the Bible, praying, going to church; other times I found myself saying or reading or thinking about things that I knew did not glorify God. Usually, that was all happening at the same time!

You may have had the same struggle - or you may have the same struggle today.

The good news from Galatians is that we have help. There really is a war going on inside ourselves, but it's not just our own "good" and "bad" impulses fighting for control. The Holy Spirit fights in us and for us. We are not in it alone!

Our human nature and God's Holy Spirit are fighting it out inside us! When we give up and let our old sinful self take charge, it leads to trouble. When we let the Holy Spirit win, we will have a happier life and a better outcome - for ourselves and the people around us.

This promise is for us parents as much as it is for our children. God's desire for all of us is to be free from sin.

Student Life Bible Study meets at 3:40pm Sundays: http://bit.ly/StudentLifeZoom

Dear Jesus, thank you for never giving up the fight! Please help us use our freedom in good ways. Help us resist temptations. Grow your good fruit in our hearts. Amen.

With love, Sharon Rauenzahn (408.316.0136)