

"Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve" *"So dear brothers and sisters you have no obligation whatsoever to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. For if you keep on following it, you will perish. But if through the power of the Holy Spirit you turn from it and its evil deeds you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God."* Romans 8:12

The line down the middle on this chart represents my free will. If you talk to yourself about situations, you become a part of the problem to the problem and you go to the left side on the chart, representing your sinful nature. If you talk to God, you become a part of the solution to the problem, & you go to the right side on the chart, representing your new nature filled with the Holy Spirit.

Referring to Romans 8:5-8: On the **Left Side** of the chart: "Those who are dominated by the sinful nature **think** about sinful things," (but on the **Right Side** of the chart:) "but those who are **controlled by** the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit." **Left Side:** "If your sinful nature controls your **mind**, there is death." **Right Side:** But if the Holy Spirit controls your **mind**, there is life and peace." **Left Side:** "For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God." **Right Side:** "But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Holy Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in You. The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you!"

Those who choose to listen to the voice of the sinful nature:	But...Those who choose to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit:
focus on the failures of others.	are overwhelmed with a sense of their own spiritual need.
have a critical, fault-finding spirit; look at everyone else's faults with a microscope, but their own with a telescope.	are compassionate; can forgive much because they know how much they have been forgiven.
are self-righteous; look down on others.	esteem all others better than themselves.
have an independent, self-sufficient spirit.	have a dependent spirit; recognize their need for others.
have to prove they are right.	are willing to yield the right to be right.
claim rights; have a demanding spirit.	yield their rights; have a meek spirit.
are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation.	are self-denying.
desire to be served and to be a success.	are motivated to serve others, be faithful and make others a success.
have a drive to be recognized and appreciated.	have a sense of their own unworthiness; are thrilled that God would use them at all.
are wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked.	are eager for others to get the credit and rejoice when others are lifted up.
feel confident in how much they know.	are humbled by how much they have to learn.
are self-conscious.	are not concerned with self at all.
keep others at arms' length and are quick to blame others.	are willing to risk getting close to others, take the risks of loving intimately, accept personal responsibility, and can see where they are wrong in a situation.
are unapproachable or defensive when criticized.	receive criticism with a humble, open spirit.
are concerned with being respectable, with what others think; work to protect their own image and reputation.	are concerned with being real; what matters to them is not what others think but what God knows; are willing to die to their own reputation.
find it difficult to share their spiritual struggles.	are willing to be open and transparent with others as God directs.
want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; their instinct is to cover up.	once broken, don't care who knows or who finds out; are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose.
have a hard time saying "I was wrong; will you forgive me?":	are quick to admit failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary.
tend to deal in generalities when confessing sin.	are able to acknowledge specifics when confessing their sin.
are concerned about the consequences of their sin.	are grieved over the cause, the root of their sin.
are remorseful over their sin, sorry that they got caught.	are truly, genuinely repentant over their sin, evidenced in the fact that they forsake that sin.
wait for the other to come and ask forgiveness when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in a relationship.	take the initiative to be reconciled when there is a misunderstanding or conflict in relationships; they race to the cross; they see if they can get there first, no matter how wrong the other may have been.
compare themselves with others and feel worthy of honor.	compare themselves to the holiness of God and feel a desperate need for His mercy.
don't think they have anything to repent of.	realize they have need of a continual heart attitude of repentance.
don't think they need revival, but are sure that everyone else does.	continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with God and for a fresh filling of His Holy Spirit.
are blind to their true heart condition.	walk in the light.