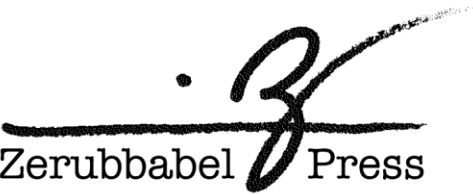


LIFE:  
THE WHAT, THE WHO, THE WHY

*by*

**PAGE PREWITT**



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## Foreword

Page Prewitt's *Life: The What, The Who, The Why* captures the result of her life-long journey to find the Total Truth for her life. From early on in her Christian walk, Page fully desired to "live right," yet she admits that she "missed the mark almost every time." Although she recognizes that many in the church accept these failings as "the best any of us can hope to be or do this side of heaven," she was convicted to labor, search, and discover the victory of a righteous life.

Page's journey led her to Paul's words in Romans, Chapter Eight. Here Paul proclaims victory over the flesh by recognizing that his position is to walk in the Spirit of the Risen Christ. Though Page quickly agrees with Paul's exclamation, she must next answer the question, "How do I translate this to everyday living?" In time, Page's search brings her to this Total Truth which you, the reader, can now share with her. These Bible-based truths were revealed to her through Holy Scripture and through the close friendship she shared with her spiritual mentor, Norman Grubb. In this booklet you will be blessed to read the fruits of Page's spiritual journey and discover how to live the Total Truth.

We at Zerubbabel Press bring you *Life: The What, The Who, The Why* with much joy. As we have been so blessed to reprint many of Norman Grubb's books, we are now particularly pleased to bring to you the next generation of "Total Truth Bearers" in Page Prewitt. The costs associated with publishing this booklet have been underwritten by generous contributions to Zerubbabel, Inc. and its newsmagazine, *The Intercessor*. We anticipate that you will appreciate Page's message in this booklet as much as we respect the opportunity to bring it to you.

Life:  
The What, The Who, The Why

*by Page Prewitt*

Life is not as it appears and that being human beings expressing their own acts and deeds—it is the acts and deeds of one of the two known supernatural spirits, Christ or Satan, indwelling mankind and, as a result, using the human spirit to live and accomplish their deeds and desires through. Our life becomes the right life when through the cross of Christ the spirit of Satan is put out of us and we become joined to the spirit of Christ. This does not put us in a relationship with Christ, as so many believe, but in an eternal union with Him; as the Bible says, we become one with Him. The two become one, yet always mysteriously two: “he that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him” (1 Cor. 6:17). As a result of this union reality, it is Christ who now lives His life through our human vessels (Gal. 2:20). As should be obvious, His purpose is to use us to reach the lost and dying world and bring them by His Spirit into their ordained eternal union with Him.

**Desperate to Live Right**

If you are someone who has been a born-again Christian for some time and you find that it has become discouragingly difficult for you to live a godly Christian life, this booklet has been written for you. I, too, have been in that place spiritually. I clearly knew God’s requirements for living a godly Christian life; what’s more, I wasn’t fooled into thinking that I even came close to meeting those requirements. My heartache was that I desperately wanted to “live right,” as I called it, and be the kind of person, both inside and out, that I knew God required me to be. Nonetheless, no matter how hard I tried to do this, I missed the mark almost all of the time.

When I would read Romans Chapter Seven where Paul says, “I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do,” I would think, “This is me. I am just like Paul. I, too, am a miserable failure. I am unable to do what I know is right, and I continually do what I know is wrong.” I could and did wholeheartedly say along with Paul that this was certainly a wretched way of life. In view of the fact that the great and beloved Paul had experienced the same failures that I was experiencing, I came to the conclusion that maybe this was it, and the best any of us could hope to be or do this side of heaven.

This belief gave me no peace, however. My conscience and the Bible convicted me that my failure to obey God’s commands and live up to His standards was sin, and in order to be a right person, I had to stop sinning and live a righteous life. But as I have already said, knowing this had me in a hopeless state because my best effort to “be an imitator of Christ” failed over and over.

Along with all this dilemma and despair, I knew the Bible promised that God had a way of escape for all our temptations.

*There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it (1 Cor. 10:13).*

### **We’re the Container, Not the Contents**

I came to see that Paul found the answer to his life that he described as being worse than death. At the end of Romans Chapter Seven and on into Chapter Eight we see the light dawn for our brother Paul when he ecstatically bursts forth with the blessed truth that the Lord Jesus Christ is the answer to the bondage in which he (US, TOO) is held. In the great “glory” Chapter Eight, we are blessed to have recorded for us Paul’s discourse where he expounds how he and those who are in Christ have been set free not to walk in sinful fallen flesh, but instead to walk in the

Spirit of the risen Christ. I had no problem agreeing with Paul that Christ was the answer for my wretched state. My problem lay in the fact that I didn't know how to translate this truth into everyday living.

In time I did find the answer I so desperately needed. Read on because I am writing this booklet in an effort to share with you the answer I had revealed to me. It came in the form of the message that I, along with many others (namely my mentor and teacher Norman Grubb, who first taught me these Bible-based truths), have come to know as the Total Truth.

The biblical foundation for this truth is that we humans are vessels or containers. The reason I say this is because the Bible calls us pots, branches, body members, slaves, and wives. The function of each of these examples is to contain or to be connected to something or someone. As such, we were created to contain a supernatural spirit as well as our own human spirit. It is the supernatural spirit (Satan, in those who are lost, and Christ, in those who are saved) that defines and rules us. With this understanding of our humanity, we comprehend that we do not have a nature of our own, but instead we express the nature of the one we contain. (Illustrations will come later to show the working out of this truth.)

### **Satan Was Our Boss**

We enter life with our human spirit joined to the spirit of error, or Satan. As unfamiliar as this idea may be to you, please take note because it is cutting edge truth. Until we are born again, we are Satan-bossed and sin (All have sinned—Rom. 3:23) for us is a way of life: *Wherein in times past ye walked according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience* (Eph. 2:2). Our sin does not have to be some dreadful transgression. The slightest infraction, like a white lie here and there or some slight selfish act, is all it takes. The good news (and that is why the Gospel is called the good news) is that when we accept Christ as our Savior, the Holy Spirit joins Himself to our spirit

and we become one spirit with Him: *But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit with Him* (1 Cor. 6:17). He then is our boss or operator and through us He expresses His nature. Thus we are total humans who become one with a Total God.

Another equally important component of the Total Truth is that everything and everyone in the universe, whether saved or lost, is and always will be 100% dependent on God, the creator and sustainer of all things: *In him we live and move and have our being* (Acts 17:28). And as strange as it seems, this includes Satan. In light of this truth, we conclude that there is no such thing as anyone being independent of God or, to put it another way, being an independent self.

Nonetheless Satan (created Lucifer, God's Light Bearer), driven by pride and ambition, made the calculated choice to act as though he was independent. He chose to reject God's authority over him and defiantly declared himself equal with or independent of God: *I will be like the Most High* (Isa. 14:13, 14).

This statement is the foundation of Satan's sin. His transgression became full-blown when he moved from thoughts and words to deeds, his deeds being his self-love and in turn, his rejection of God who is self-for-others love. By doing this, Satan opened the dark side of God and became the opposite of Him—total self-for-self. The God-given consequence for Satan's sin was that he and his angels became enemies of God and were cast out of heaven forever.

### **"I"—the Original Sin**

Satan began his sin infiltration into the human race when he tempted Eve with the following lie:

*"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman, "For God knows that if you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil"* (Gen. 3:4, 5).

Eve turned her back on God and believed Satan and trusted him instead. I can imagine she said something to this effect: “I” am free; “I” will do as “I” please. (Notice here how she speaks of herself as being independent or an alone I ). Her unbelief manifested itself, as it always does, by Eve putting her trust in herself as though she was a self-operating self. As a result, she ate the forbidden fruit and persuaded Adam to do the same.

*When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband (Gen. 3:6).*

This act of disobedience changed the world forever. Death, both physical and spiritual, began on planet Earth. The personal consequences to Adam and Eve were that God removed them from the garden, and they took Satan’s evil, self-for-self, sinful nature into their spirit. At this point Satan took their spirits captive and became their operator. All mankind after Adam inherited this evil self-for-self Satan nature and came into the world lost.

*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Rom. 5:12).*

*And you hath he quickened, who were dead [lost] in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to [Satan] the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience (Eph. 2:1, 2).*

We all remain in this lost state unless or until we accept Christ as our personal Savior, and we become, in biblical terms, saved or born-again: *Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God ( John 3:3).*

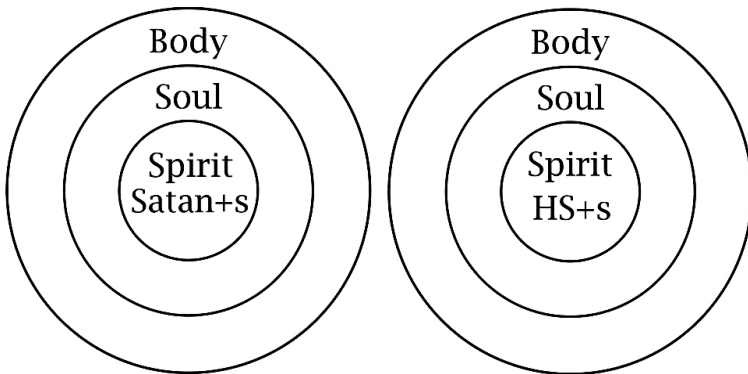
A glorious thing happens to us the moment we accept Christ as our Savior and become born-again: we are cleansed of all our sins by Jesus’ shed



blood, and His body death cuts us off from the indwelling spirit of error (Satan). In return, the Holy Spirit joins Himself to our human spirit. From that instant we are forever united with Him in an eternal union.

### **Our Human Makeup**

Hopefully the following illustrations will help show what I mean.



These diagrams give a very simple picture of our human makeup. As you can see in the first diagram, our human spirit is represented by a lower case “s” along with the plus sign which connects it to Satan. This makes very clear the biblical fact that having inherited Satan’s nature from Adam, we are all born joined to him, and he is our boss. The Lord Jesus is the only exception. He was born sinless, lived sinless, and died sinless.

In our second illustration, our human spirit (“s”) is joined to the Holy Spirit. The exchange of Satan with the Holy Spirit takes place when we accept Christ as our Savior. It is the body death of Jesus that is the means by which our human spirit is freed from the indwelling spirit of error (Satan). The Holy Spirit Himself becomes the new spirit life within us.

*He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him (1 Cor. 6:17).*

### **Crucified with Christ—What Does It Mean?**

I think it would be helpful to digress for a moment to explain what the Bible means when it talks about our being put to death (crucified) with Christ on the cross and, in turn, our being dead with Him. There are a lot of explanations for what our being dead with Christ means. But most of them are not only confusing, but inaccurate. We must get it clear that death does not mean our termination. It is, instead, the process by which spirit is separated from body.

The Bible says that Christ became sin—or in other words, He took the spirit of Satan/sin on Himself (Cor. 5:21) and was crucified (put to death), the purpose of which was to eternally separate Himself from the sin spirit. This sacrifice of His life made possible this freedom for all mankind. *We were crucified with Him. And by His miraculous sacrificial death we, too, were freed from the Satan/sin spirit.* However, this work does not take place in our life until we accept Christ and this work He did for us on the cross. At that moment, we are raised to newness of life by the Holy Spirit and from that moment on our life is the life of Christ in us.

*Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him (Rom. 6:6-8).*

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you (Rom. 8:11).*

Thus, in actual fact, we become new creatures, or what the Bible calls the “new man.” When this exchange of spirits takes place in us, the old man who is made up of our human spirit joined to Satan no longer exists. In spite of what we are universally taught, there is no longer an old man waiting around to re-invent himself as us. Our new life is now the life of Christ who joins himself to us in an eternal union.

*Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4).*

*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Gal. 2:20).*

It is very important for you to understand that I am not in any way saying that we reach a state of perfection where it is impossible for us to sin. The explanation of sin in the life of a Christian will come later.

I hope this short account lets you see that when we say that through Jesus' body death on the cross we become new creatures in Christ, we are stating a literal fact and not some high-sounding spiritual ideal. We are actually changed from having Satan joined to us (Satan/I) to Christ joining Himself to us (Christ/I).

### **Body, Soul and Spirit**

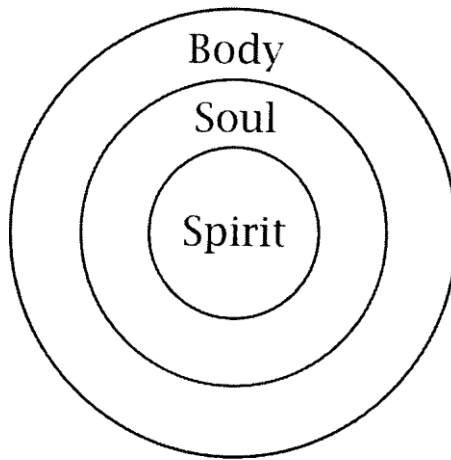
Once I came to accept this biblically validated truth as the foundation for my own Christian experience—that I am in union with Christ and am thus one spirit with Him—I still had questions that had to be answered. (Let me interrupt and say that it is my experience that most people have these same questions.) Does the Holy Spirit take us over in our union with Him and automatically eclipse our freedom to choose and thus make it impossible for us to sin? Or can we say that because of our oneness with Christ, He is somehow responsible for our sin? Of course we must say NO to both of these suppositions. From Scripture and experience, two things are very clear: Christians (union people) *do* sin, and Christ has *never* sinned and never will sin. Another question that plagues us as Christians regarding sin is this: Do we have to go Satan's sinful, anti-God way?

To gain clarity on these questions, we must understand our humanity and how it functions. To do that, we must first gain an understanding of the

difference between body, soul, and spirit. Each of these is part of every individual and each has its distinct and separate function, but all work together to make us the very glorious creatures that we know ourselves to be.

Following is a simple drawing which, along with the others presented earlier, has helped me and many others understand the inner makeup of the human self. Of course, these diagrams can only give an idea of what we as persons look like and how we function. No human explanation can adequately portray spirit truth. Please note that a true grasp of these truths only comes to the honest seeker by Holy Spirit revelation.

The outer circle represents our body, the middle circle our soul, and the inner circle our spirit. The body is the outer clothing or the outer expression of the soul and spirit.



### **Soul—the Troublemaker**

Our soul is where emotions and reasoning take place—where we feel and think. It is very important that we understand and accept that our thoughts and feelings (fear, happiness, sadness, shyness, etc.) are morally neutral; all feelings are necessary components of the human personality.

But they are a huge problem because until we know differently, we believe that our feelings are not only how we are but *who* we are, and we operate (make our choices) based on this misconception. We are overcome with guilt and defeat at not being able to change or, better still, eliminate either our negative thoughts or feelings. The truth is that neither needs to be changed. They both originate in the soul, and as we said, they are morally neutral. Neither affects our inner spirit reality unless or until we believe them *and* act on them.

### **Just What Is Spirit?**

Spirit, which is our real self, is represented by the inner circle. Spirit has three basic faculties—desire/love, mind/knowledge, and will/choice. Desire or love is at the center of the human spirit. Sad to say, in our lost state we are self-love, with Satan expressing his self-for-self love through us. But as we touched on earlier, when we become born again, the glorious exchange takes place whereby our sinful operator, Satan, is cut off from our human spirit through the body death of Christ and, in turn, He ( Jesus Christ) joins Himself to our human spirit, and we become “one spirit with Him” (1 Cor. 6:17). As we said earlier, we are the vessels through whom He expresses His selfless love—spirit love, the term for which is *agapé*.

Mind is our second spirit faculty. It is where we know things—not what we think about things (that is a soul function) but where we *know* them. Ideas belong to the soul realm; knowledge belongs to the spirit. For example, we may know a lot about God and Jesus on a soul level, but we can only *know* them and matters of the spirit by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit who is the Knower in and through us.

The third faculty of the spirit is the will, and it is here that our spirit choices are made. Our love and knowledge (the other spirit faculties) both help shape these choices which are, in turn, expressed through our soul and body. The will is the arbiter of our destiny: our God-ordained freedom to choose for God or against God exists in our will.

Because soul and spirit are so closely linked, it takes a revelation of the Spirit for us to know the difference between them. Hebrews 4:12 gives us an illustration of their closeness: *For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

The writer to the Hebrews is saying that the two are as closely connected as the marrow is to the bone. Like the marrow, spirit is the life of the body. The soul, like the joint, is the vessel for the marrow and is the means by which the inner spirit life expresses itself.

### **What About Sin?**

The Bible simplifies sin when it makes the bare bones statement that everything not of faith is sin (Rom. 14:23). Or to put it another way, all unbelief is sin. (Unbelief means that we do not believe what God says about us— that as Christians we are joined to Christ, and He is one spirit with us). In view of this fact, the first thing Satan must accomplish in his effort to get any believer to commit a sinful deed is to tempt him and get him to believe he is an independent self-operating self. In other words, to see himself as an “alone I” or “just me.”

When/if Satan is able to lure us by this lie into the sin of unbelief, he gains the power to boss us on the soul/ body level and lead us into any sin deed he chooses. Our union with Christ is not broken; however, our sin temporarily blocks the Holy Spirit from living through us. Confession and repentance on our part is the only way we can receive God’s grace and forgiveness and once again walk in the light—in actual fact, have Christ live through us.

The good news is that we can avoid the Satan sin trap by simply remembering and, if necessary, stating the truth that thoughts and feelings are not the real us. They are factual but not real in the eternal

Spirit sense. This is the way the Bible says it: *The things that are seen are temporal* [fleeting] *and the things that are not seen are eternal* [everlasting] (2 Cor. 4:18). I am not saying that we are to ignore our thoughts and feelings. To the contrary, it is very important that we look at them honestly, and if necessary, talk about them to someone, but as quickly as possible, move past them and begin to reflect on who we are in our spirit center—we joined to Christ rather than how we feel.

Paul uses the marriage analogy in Romans Chapter Seven to help clarify this issue. He says in this passage that we must consciously enter into the reality of not only our cut-off from our old husband Satan, but also our marriage to our new husband Jesus Christ. Until we do this, we will remain under the illusion that we are independent. This puts us, unknowingly, under the outer control of our old husband Satan. And as a result, defeat and guilt are our lot.

*For do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God (Romans 7:1-4).*

### **How Temptation Really Works**

The above applies to me in relation to my writing this booklet. In spite of the fact that I have known from the beginning that the task of writing this is something I have been commissioned to do, I have been plagued with the feelings of inadequacy and fear of being unable to do it. And not to be left out, my thoughts go hand in hand with my feelings—I think over and over, “I am not good at writing; this is too hard so I will just quit and leave

the writing to those who are good at it.” Along with thoughts like this, I feel very inadequate and fearful to attempt such a task.

Satan tried to use this approach when he tempted Jesus in the wilderness (John 4:1-11). He began his discourse with Jesus, not as we would expect, tempting Him with food (Jesus was hungry because he had fasted for forty days) or with power. He tempted Him with pride. Satan preceded all his specific temptations with this piercing statement: *If you are who you say you are*, you can turn these stones into bread or you can throw yourself off the temple and God will send angels to save you. Jesus could have come back with, “Of course I am who I say I am; I am the Christ, the Son of the living God”—the “I” meaning that He had what it took in and of Himself to do what Satan tempted Him to do and go Satan’s self-for-self way. The truth, and He made it quite clear, is that He and His Father are One, and He does only what He sees His Father do ( John 14:10). His strengths and His abilities are operated only in love for others, just as are those of His Father.

Let’s pick up where we left off a couple of paragraphs back with our discussion of my problem writing this paper. Is my struggle with what I am thinking and feeling? Or do I have a much bigger problem? Look at my sentence for a minute: “I am incapable of getting my thoughts organized and written down and I feel inadequate and fearful.”

Remember that Satan begins all temptation by trying to get us to see ourselves as independent or, “just me.” But as we have said again and again, there is no independent or just me individual in the universe. For that reason the answer to the question is obviously NO! Nevertheless, if I continue to repeat Satan’s lies, I put myself in danger of disobediently crossing the line from being tempted to believe I am independent to actually believing I am. If/ when I do this, I commit the original sin of unbelief. This gives Satan the freedom to take control of me on the soul level, thus blocking Christ from living His life in and through me. At the same time, Satan gains the freedom to misuse me through my members (body/soul).



## **Avoiding the Sin Trap**

The course of action I must take to avoid this Satan trap is very simple, but not easy to do, because it takes my giving up my idea of the situation and saying that I am wrong. Next, I stop saying all the negative things to myself that I have been saying, and instead I say the truth about myself—and that is, “If I am Jesus Christ in my particular form and He is my operator, then what I am thinking and believing about my inability to organize and write down my thoughts cannot be true.”

What I am thinking and believing may be the way things appear to my human senses, but they are merely appearances, and we are admonished in Scripture not to judge by appearances (John 7:24). I must look through appearances to what is true in the realm of spirit. This is how Jesus lived. He saw past the outer human need to His Father, the total supply, though invisible to the human eye, right in the midst of the negative circumstance.

Next, I begin to say by faith (none of it will be fact at this stage) what I know to be real in the realm of the Spirit. The truth is that Jesus Christ through me can write anything that He wants to write as long as He is the one in control of my life. As we discussed earlier, Christ regains His rightful place as Lord (Boss) of my life when I confess my sin of unbelief and then affirm and stand in the truth: that Jesus Christ, who is my spirit operator, can and will do it through me. My responsibility is to trust Him to do so and not give up, but to continue on writing.

## **What to Do About the Turmoil of Feelings**

To go over this one last time in hopes that this further discussion will help you become very quick in dealing with your thoughts and feelings, here is an example that I hope will help you.

We say that we are shy or fearful or smart or ugly (use your own example). Let's pick "shy" and write it out: "I am a shy person. I have all the traits that portray someone who is shy. I have always been this way. I have been told I was shy since I was a small child." All this is true on the body-soul level, and Satan has been free to live out shyness because my wrong believing about myself has given him the freedom to do so. But (and it is a big *but*) the truth is that I know that my operator is Jesus Christ and the shy label that I have put on myself is a lie.

The truth is that Christ is not shy. If He is sometimes quiet in me, that is His business. I am wrong to call myself shy because of His quietness. At the same time, I may be *feeling* shy, but you now know that is just a soul feeling and it has no reality on the spirit level. I speak the truth when I say, "I am *feeling* shy, or afraid, lonely, or superior, or smarter, but these are all feelings and they are not who and what Jesus Christ, who is my operator, is." We must not think we are off-course when the feelings continue, which in all likelihood they will. We simply focus on who we are and pay as little attention to our feelings as possible.

It is crucial that we understand that sin never begins with a deed; consequently, our root problem is never our deeds. Deeds are merely the symptoms of a deeper hidden problem. But Satan has done an excellent job of tricking us and keeping us from getting to the root of sin. Because of his deception, we always concentrate on the symptom. This keeps our attention off the source of sin, which is believing Satan's lie that I am just me and that I can and do operate independently of God.

### **Not I, But Christ**

I am now finished with this booklet, but the task of writing it never became easy. I sat at the computer, trusted Christ within me, putting myself at the disposal of the Holy Spirit, and simply recorded truth as He brought it to my mind. The task continued to feel impossible, but I ignored my feelings (soul) and no matter how impossible the task felt, I doggedly reminded myself of the truth— Christ is perfectly capable of

getting the writing done that He wants to get done. My responsibility is to remain faithful and available to Him to use to accomplish the task.