**Christ-directed Life**

**5**Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. **6**So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.**7**For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God’s laws, and it never will. **8**That’s why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.

**9**But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.)

**Romans 8:5-9**

**12**Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. **13**For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. **14**For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

**Romans 8:12-14**

What are some things that stood out to you about this passage?

Read the passage again. This time circle anything that has to do with the sinful nature/flesh. Underline anything that has to do with the Spirit.

What does it mean to be dominated by the sinful nature?

This passage describes two different types of lifestyles. A Self-directed life vs. a Christ-directed life. On the back of this sheet there is a simple illustration of this truth. Take some time to list from the passage examples of each of different lifestyle by the diagram.



Christ-Directed Life

Self-Directed Life

What are some main differences between these two lifestyles based on the passage and this illustration?

Where are some areas or ways in your life that you still live self-directed?

Verse 13 explains that “if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live.” Meaning that we must rely on the Holy Spirit to live a Christ directed life.

How will you begin to live that truth out this week?