I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know ... his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. Ephesians 1:18-21

1

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Context

"The law was brought in so that the <u>trespass</u> might increase. But where <u>sin</u> increased, grace increased all the more." Romans 5:20

So why not just "live in grace"?

trespass, sin = not as good as God not as good as we know we should be

Romans 6:1-14

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on <u>sinning</u> so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life

sinning = living less well than we know we should

5

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.

¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Jesus' death was decisive and final in life
Jesus' life is unstoppable and glorious

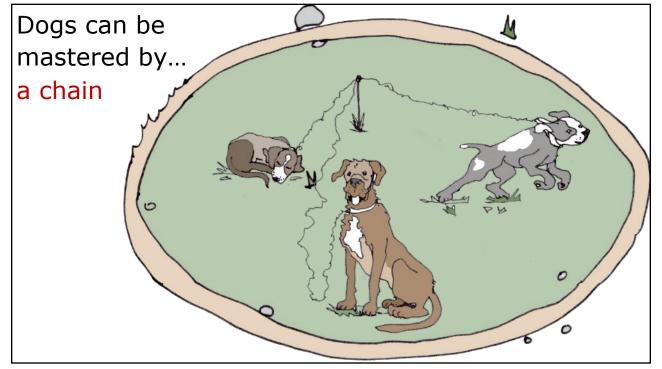
¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

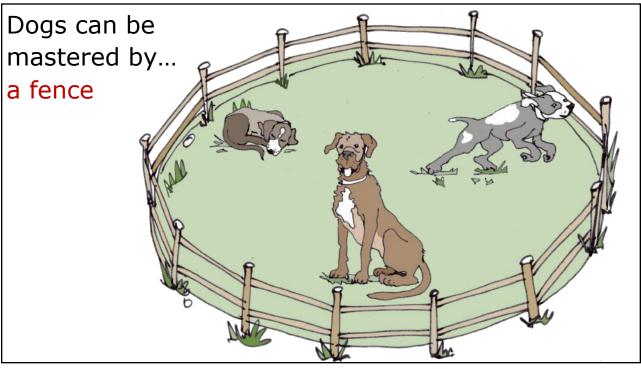
The Big Idea

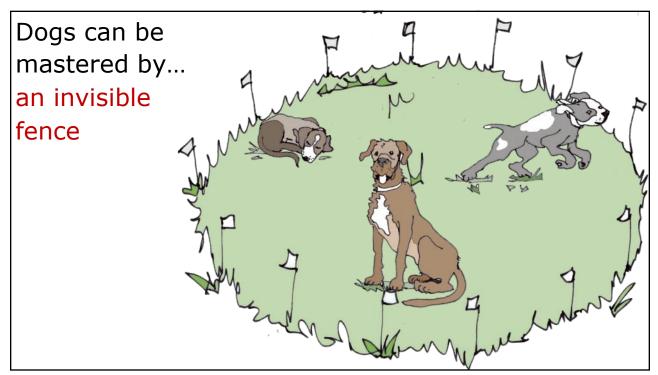
Christ's death & resurrection have destroyed sin's mastery over every true Christian

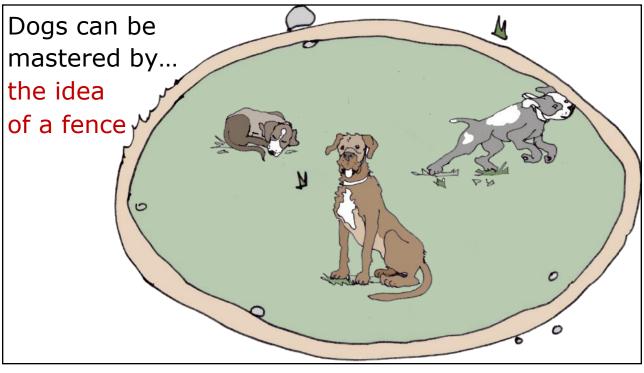
So...live out that promise!

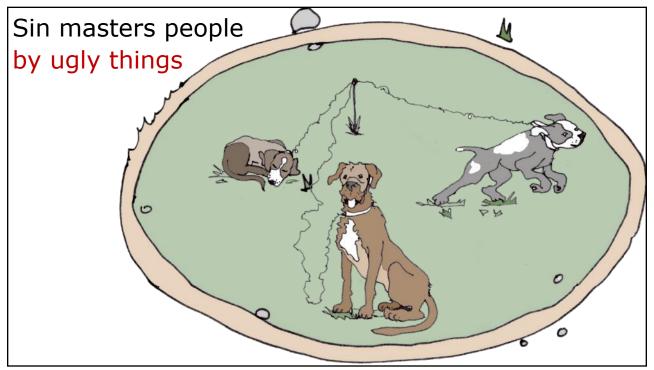


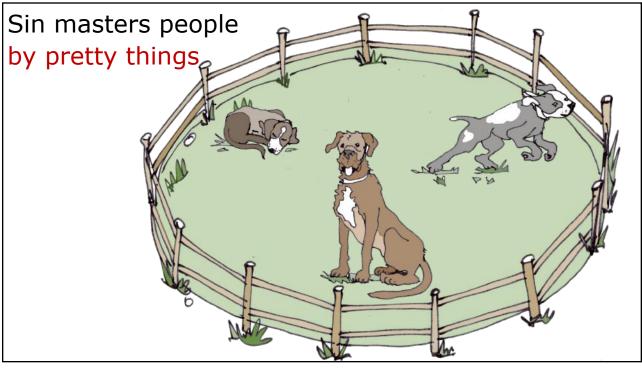


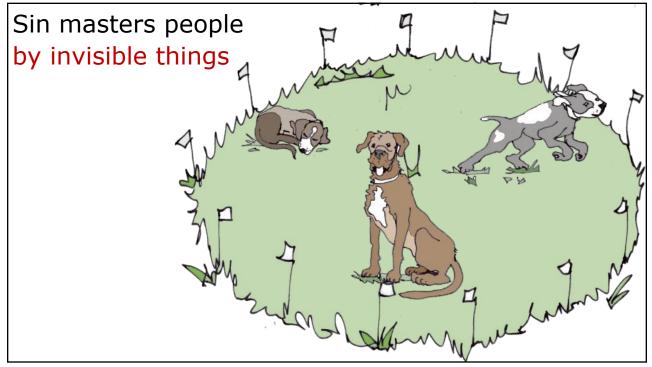


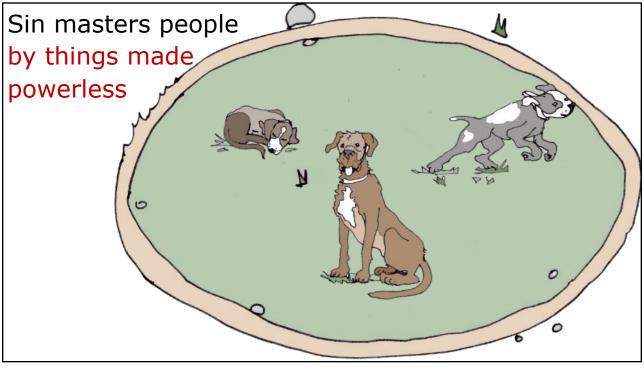


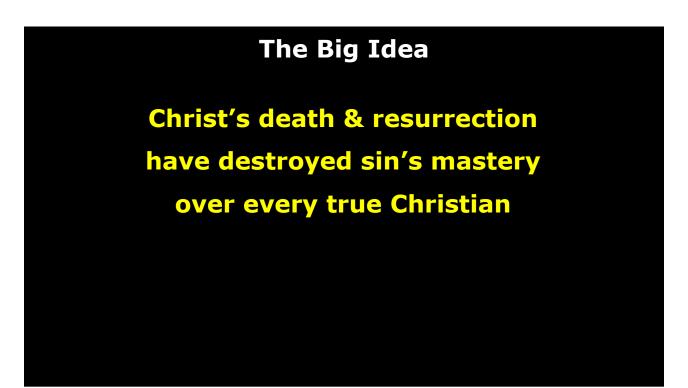


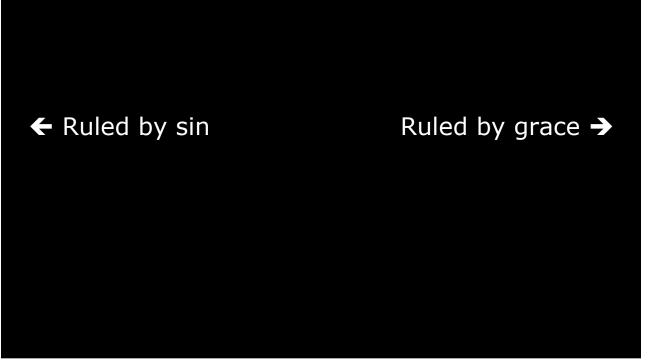


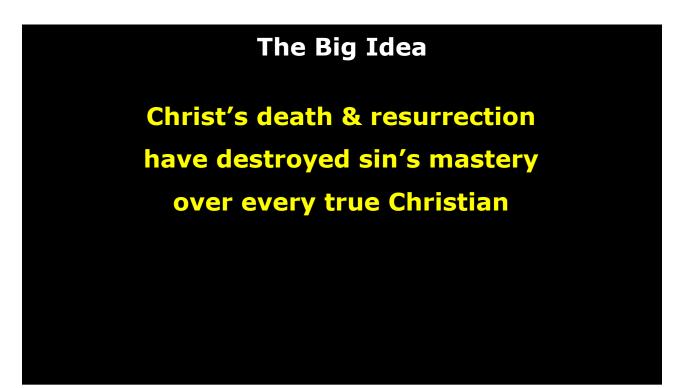












What are we to do?

Embrace by faith our new identity: Christ's death and resurrection

Consider yourself dead to sin by Christ's death

Consider yourself alive to God by Christ' life

"offer every part of yourself to God as an instrument of righteousness"

21

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father. we too may live a new life. Romans 6=4

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know ... his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. Ephesians 1:18-21