



DEVOTION: March 10, 2019

Be Killing Sin
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“...if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” – Romans 8:13b

By the end of a long winter, I am looking forward to spring — birds chirping, leaves budding, and grass growing. What I dread are the weeds. Weeds are relentless and maintaining a healthy lawn means killing weeds all summer long. In Romans 8, we learn the Christian life involves a similar, ongoing battle. We receive true life through “the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead” (v. 11), and with this new life also comes the power to fight sin. As Paul writes, “if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live” (v. 13b). Puritan Pastor John Owen said it this way, “Be killing sin, or it will be killing you.” We know a gardener treasures his garden when he fights the weeds that would otherwise overtake it. In Christ, we have received not only everlasting life but also Divine power to crucify any sin threatening to overtake us in the present. In the power of the Holy Spirit, we can tend the garden of our hearts. May Christ get all the glory He deserves from our lives as we work in the Spirit’s power to be killing sin.



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