



Spiritual Disciplines for the Man in the Mirror

A Man and Spiritual Warfare

Galatians 5:16-26

Questions

September 27, 2002

1. In the movie *A Beautiful Mind*, schizophrenic John Nash, when questioned if his delusional characters were gone, said, "No they're not gone. Maybe they never will be. But I've gotten used to ignoring them, and I think that as a result they have kind of given up on me. You think that's what it's like with all our dreams and our nightmares, Martin? You've got to keep feeding them for them to stay alive?" What can we learn by analogy about the desires of our sinful nature?
2. What advice does Paul offer in Galatians 5:16 and, from verse 17, why?
3. Answer ONE of the following:
 - On a typical day, what percentage of the time are you winning and what percentage of the time are you losing the battle for control of your desires? If you are a Christian, how is your spiritual battle today different from before you had the Spirit?
 - What is the one desire from your sinful nature that most troubles you, and why? What is the way of escape and victory?
4. In *A Beautiful Mind* John Nash also said, "Being part of a community might do me some good. A certain level of attachments to familiar places, familiar people, might help me elbow out these...these certain delusions I have." Do you think your Man in the Mirror Bible Study Group can be a "community" to help you "elbow out" your sinful desires? What would you have to do for that to happen? What would the group have to do?