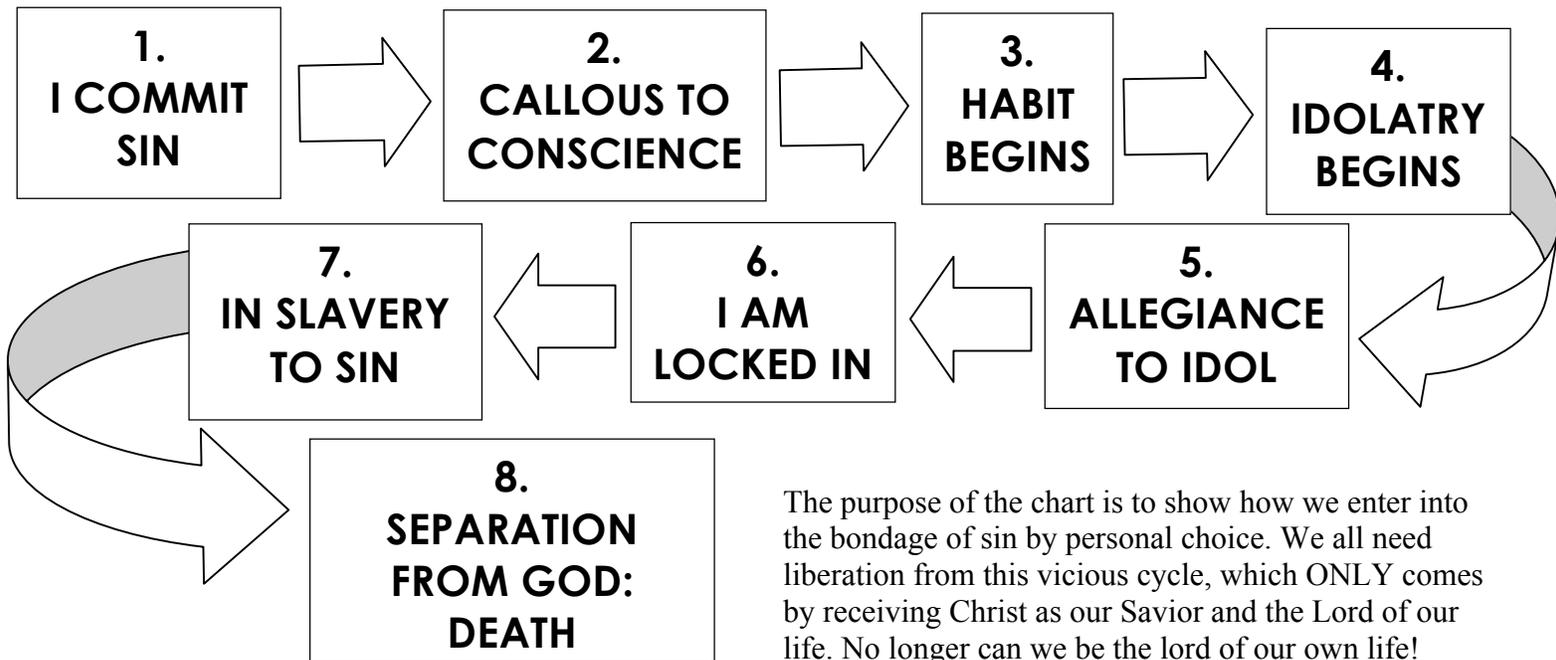


ONE STEP TO FREEDOM
CHAPTER 1: Planning For Victory

Lesson 8
THE CYCLE OF SIN



The purpose of the chart is to show how we enter into the bondage of sin by personal choice. We all need liberation from this vicious cycle, which ONLY comes by receiving Christ as our Savior and the Lord of our life. No longer can we be the lord of our own life!

1. I commit the act of sin. See Genesis 3:6 and James 1:15a.

2. I become “desensitized” to right and wrong. It becomes easier to sin the next time I am tempted. I become past feeling or desensitized. See Ephesians 4:19.

3. Habit begins. It becomes a part of me or becomes “second nature.” We all have a “habit capacity.” This can be used for good or bad. See Romans 6:16, 19.

4. Desires are given ultimate priority, and they become an idol. Whenever I give anything in my life ultimate priority, it becomes an idol of my heart. Any desire can become more important in my life than pleasing God. See Ezekiel 14:3-6.

5. My life becomes enslaved to serving these desires. A pattern of allegiance (or ritual) to the idol sets in. Jesus said, “Whoever commits sin is a slave to sin” (John 8:34). This is a compulsive and addictive behavior. For some, it is turning to the bottle or smoking cigarettes.

6. I am locked into a way of life. I’ve become dominated by sin making me a slave to it, leading me into bondage and destruction. See Proverbs 5:22-23.

7. I am a slave. You are either a slave to sin or a slave to Christ. See Romans 6:16, 22.

8. Separation from God “DEATH” This refers to both physical and spiritual death, leading to God’s judgment and spiritually remaining separated from Him for eternity. For the Christian, it brings spiritual deadness and corruption. “The wages of sin brings death” (Romans 6:23). “Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren” James 1:15-16.

