John 10:10 (NIV) 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

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Galatians 5:16-26 (NIV) 16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh.

They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

1. Left to our own devices we tend to be our own worst enemies

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They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Ephesians 4:22 (NIV) 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is <u>being</u> corrupted by its deceitful desires;

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NIV) 3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

# The thief comes <u>O N L Y</u> to steal, kill and destroy

- 1. Left to our own devices we tend to be our own worst enemies
- 2. When we follow the flesh we become ugly

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- 1. Left to our own devices we tend to be our own worst enemies
- 2. When we follow the flesh we become ugly
- 3. You're going to have to serve someone

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

#### 1. In Christ we are a new creation

2 Corinthians 5:17(NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

 In Christ we are a new creation
 Christ makes beautiful things out of ugly vessels

- 1. In Christ we are a new creation
- 2. Christ makes beautiful things out of ugly vessels
- 3. Serving Christ is easier than we think it is

#### **Psalm 34:8**

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

#### John 10:10 (NIV) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.