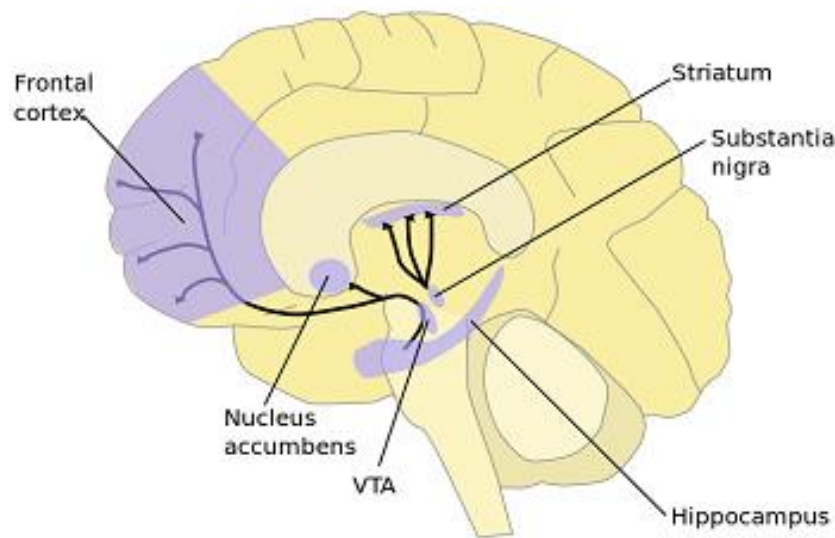


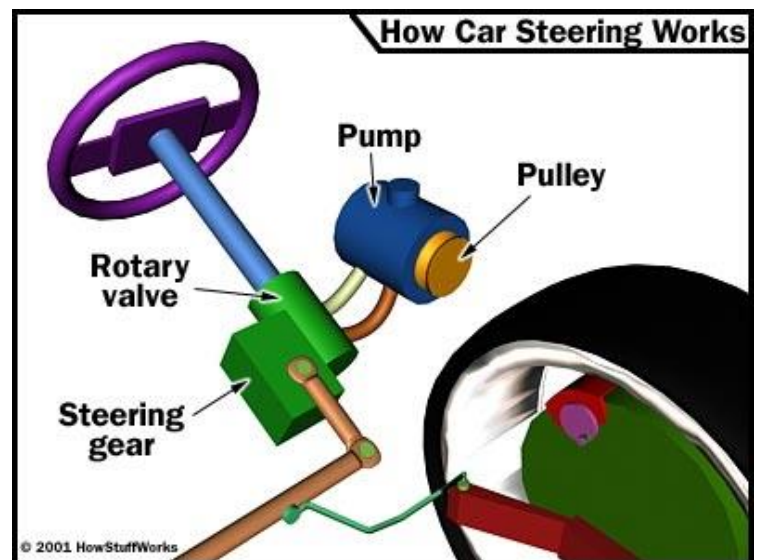
# Neurospiritual

FORCE  
OF  
LAW

Vine's Dictionary defines the word "law" (νόμος nomos) as a force or influence impelling to action.



The power steering system of your car is activated in the same way your dopamine pathway is activated. When you desire something, your dopamine pathway is activated to help you move in the direction of your desire.





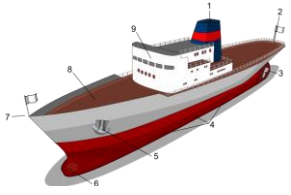
1. Vine's Dictionary defines the word "law" (νόμος nomos) as a \_\_\_\_\_ or influence \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

force    impelling    action

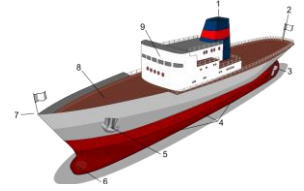
2. The power steering system of your car is activated in the same way your \_\_\_\_\_ pathway is \_\_\_\_\_. When you desire something, your dopamine pathway is activated to help you move in the direction of your desire.

dopamine    activated

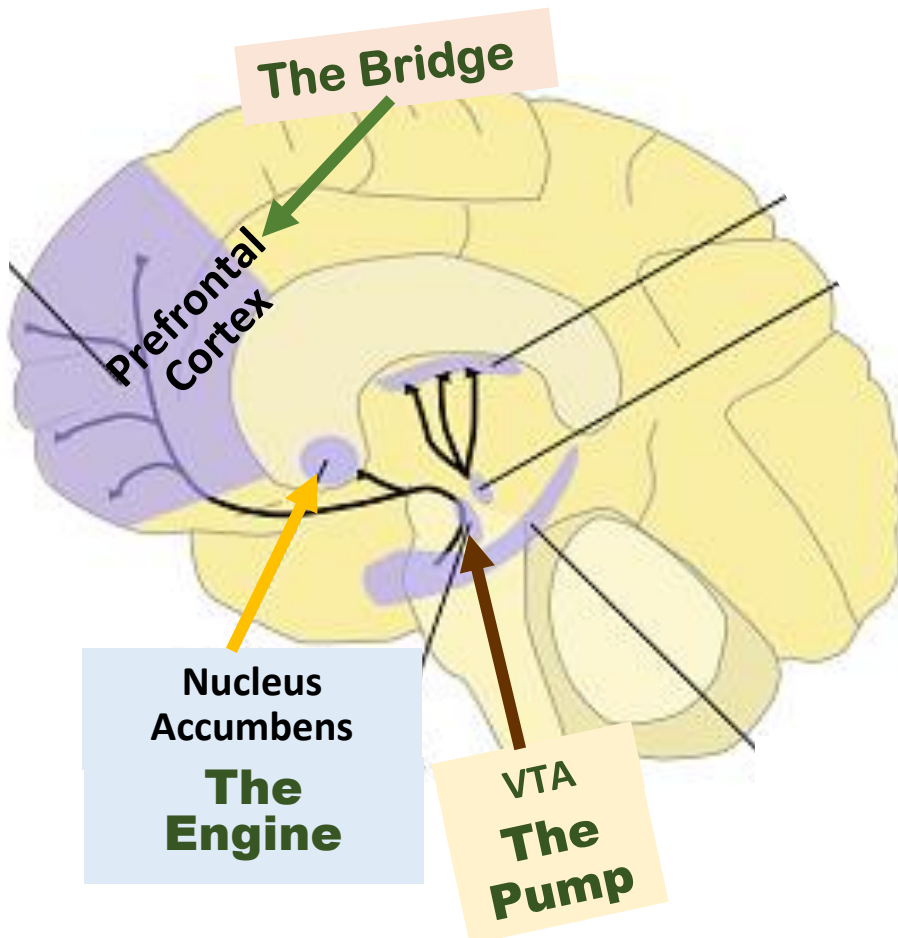
# The Dopamine Pathway



Think of your reward (dopamine) pathway as a ship having a fuel pump, engine and bridge (main deck):



Your reward pathway begins at the ventral tegmental area (VTA). It functions like a ship's fuel pump. When you see something you would like to have, do or accomplish, it manufactures the dopamine and sends the dopamine signal to the nucleus accumbens (the engine).



The nucleus accumbens functions like a ship's engine. When it receives the dopamine signal, it generates motivation and attention to help you accomplish the goals you choose.

Then, there is the prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for judgment, decision-making, perspective-taking, and self-regulation. The prefrontal cortex, like the bridge of a ship, steers your behavior.

Neuroscientist Dr. Marc Lewis (adapted)



1. Your reward pathway begins at the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (VTA). It functions like a ship's fuel pump. When  
you see something you would like to have, do or accomplish, it  
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**ventral tegmental area      manufactures      dopamine**

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ functions like a ship's engine.  
When it receives the dopamine signal, it \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and attention to help you accomplish the goals  
you choose.

**nucleus accumbens      generates      motivation**

3. Then, there is the \_\_\_\_\_, which is  
responsible for \_\_\_\_\_, decision-making, perspective-  
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a ship, \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_.

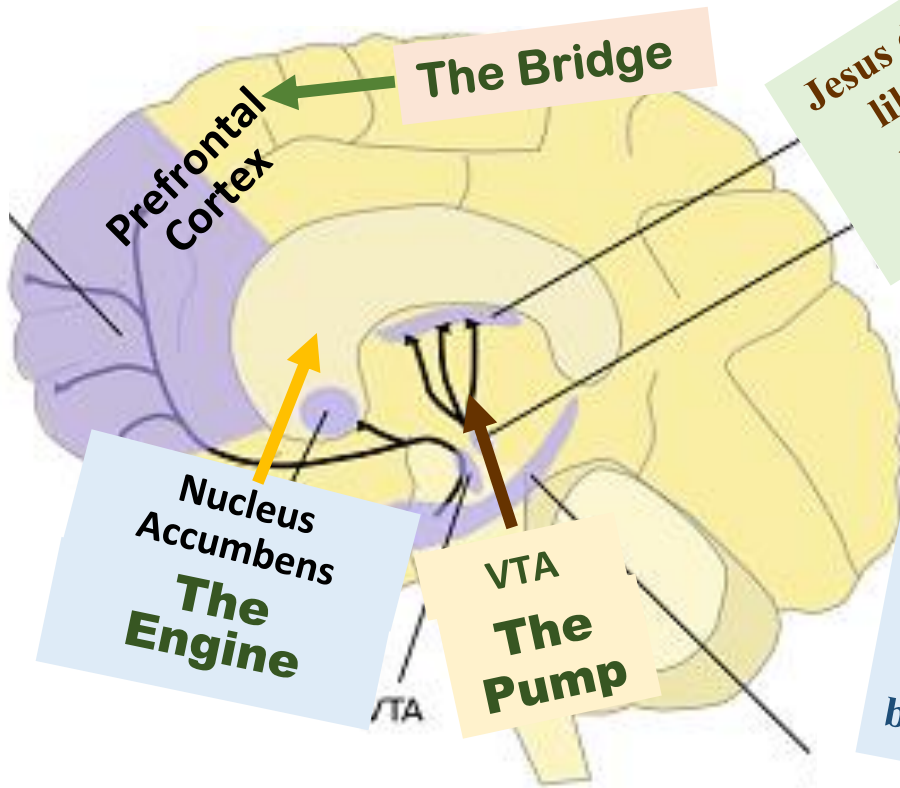
Neuroscientist Dr. Marc Lewis (adapted)

**prefrontal cortex      judgment      steers      behavior**

# The dopamine pathway's spiritual role:

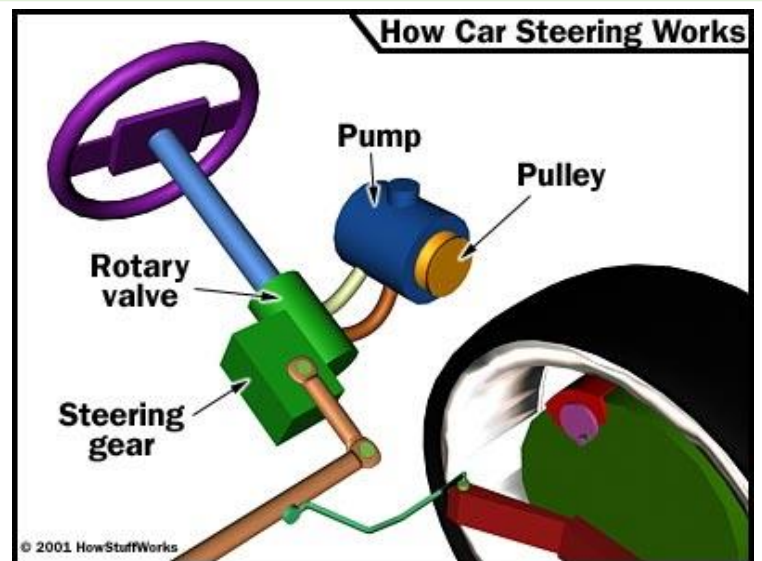
Jesus invented this smart device called the human brain, and He knows we must desire God's blessings to receive them.

Jesus designed into the brain a function like a car's power steering system, which is activated the moment the steering wheel is touched and turned.



Likewise, asking, seeking and knocking activates our VTA to manufacture dopamine and send it up to the nucleus accumbens (NA). Then the NA generates a strong force in our mind that sharpens our focus and pushes our body toward the desired goal!

The power steering system of your car is activated in the same way your dopamine pathway is activated. At your command, a pump is activated to help you move in the direction of your desire.





1. Jesus invented this smart device called the human brain, and He knows we must \_\_\_\_\_ God's blessings to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

desire receive

2. Likewise, asking, seeking and knocking \_\_\_\_\_ our VTA to \_\_\_\_\_ dopamine and send it up to the nucleus accumbens (NA). Then the NA \_\_\_\_\_ a strong force in our \_\_\_\_\_ that sharpens our \_\_\_\_\_ and pushes our body toward the desired goal!

activates manufacture generates mind focus

3. The power steering system of your car is \_\_\_\_\_ in the same way your \_\_\_\_\_ pathway is activated. At your command, a \_\_\_\_\_ is activated to help you move in the direction of your \_\_\_\_\_.

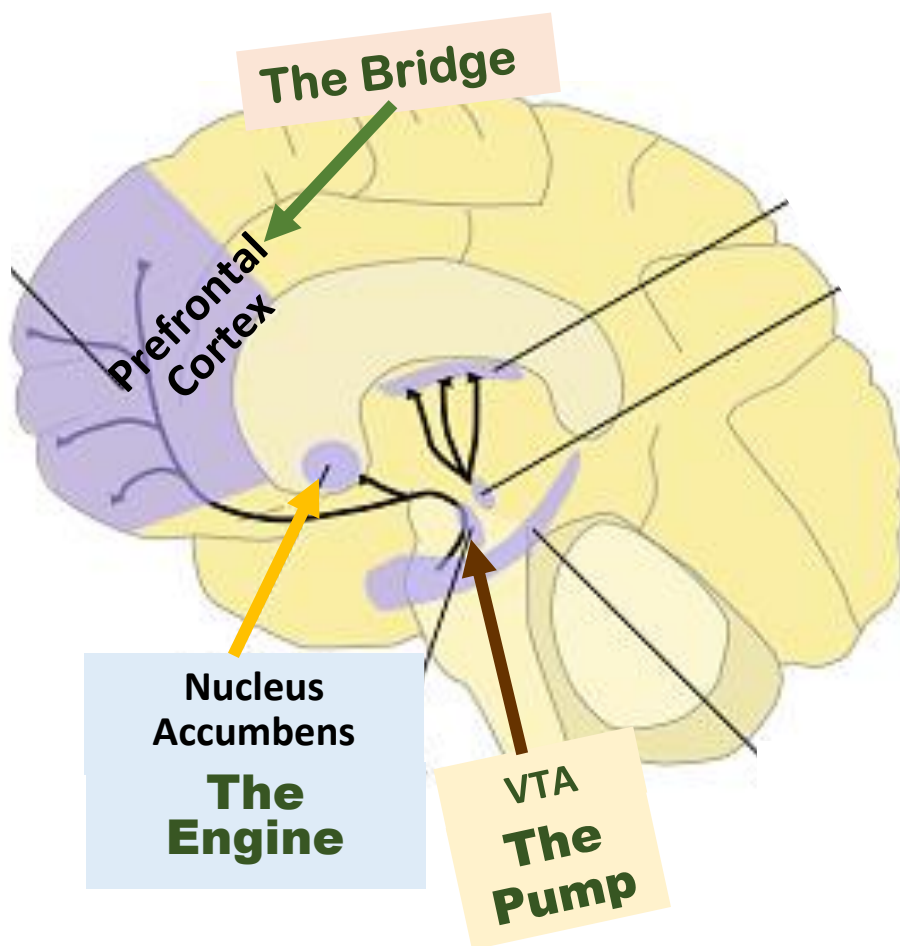
activated dopamine pump desire



# “For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.” (Romans 7:22)

This chart of our dopamine pathway illustrates the Scriptures about “the law of God according to the inward man”

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day” (2 Corinthians 4:16).



“That He would grant you . . . to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith . . . that you may be filled with all the fullness of God . . . according to the power that works in us...” (Ephesians 3:16-20).

“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12).



1. “For I delight in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God according to the \_\_\_\_\_ man.”  
(Romans 7:22)

law inward

2. “Therefore we do not lose \_\_\_\_\_. Even though our \_\_\_\_\_ man is perishing, yet the \_\_\_\_\_ man is being \_\_\_\_\_ day by day”  
(2 Corinthians 4:16).

heart outward inward renewed

3. “That He would grant you . . . to be \_\_\_\_\_ with might through His \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ man, that Christ may dwell in your \_\_\_\_\_ through faith . . . that you may be \_\_\_\_\_ with all the fullness of God . . . according to the \_\_\_\_\_ that works in us...”  
(Ephesians 3:16-20).

strengthened Spirit inner filled power

“For the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the \_\_\_\_\_” (Hebrews 4:12).

Word living powerful heart

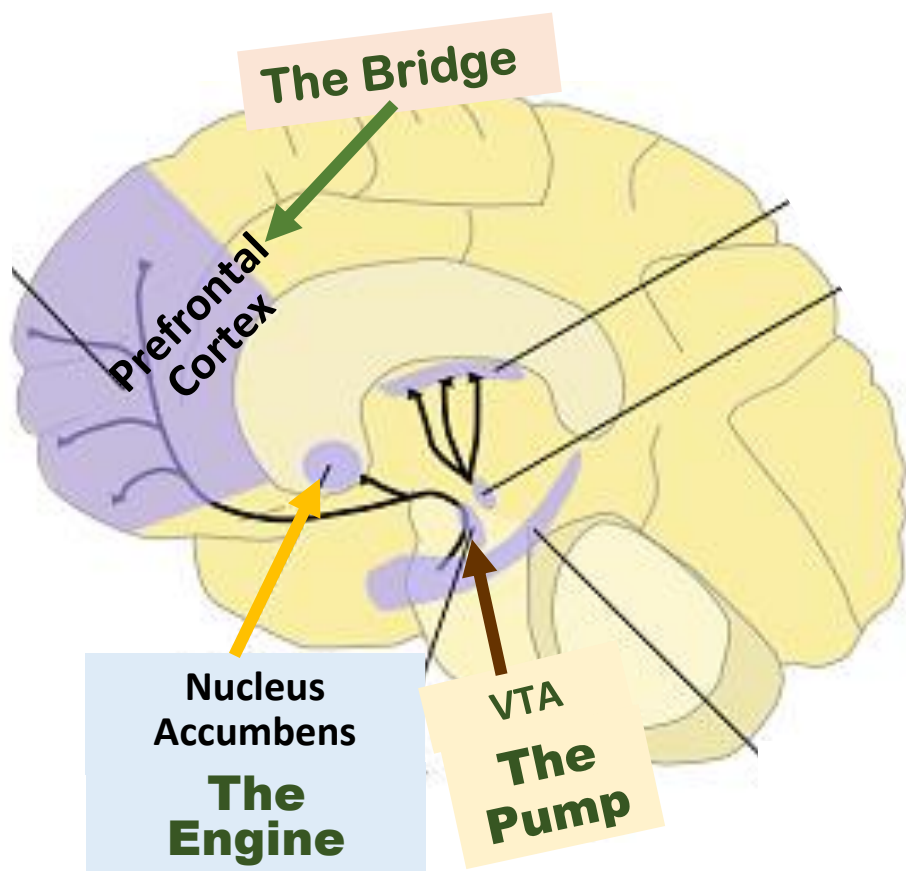


**“But I see another law . . . warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin...”**

(Romans 7:23).

The dopamine pathway is where “the law of sin” is “warring against the law of my mind.” The chart illustrates the Scriptures about this war!

**“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death” (James 1:14,15).**



**“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures” (James 4:1-3).**

**“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another...” (Galatians 5:16,17).**



1. “But I see another \_\_\_\_\_ . . . \_\_\_\_\_ against the law of my \_\_\_\_\_, and bringing me into \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin...”  
(Romans 7:23).

law warring mind captivity

2. The dopamine pathway is where “the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_” is “\_\_\_\_\_ against the of my \_\_\_\_\_.”

law sin warring law mind

3. “But each one is \_\_\_\_\_ when he is \_\_\_\_\_ away by his own \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Then, when \_\_\_\_\_ has conceived, it gives birth to \_\_\_\_\_ ; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death”  
(James 1:14,15).

tempted drawn desires enticed desire sin

4. “Where do \_\_\_\_\_ and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ that war in your members? You \_\_\_\_\_ and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your \_\_\_\_\_”  
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wars desires pleasure lust pleasures

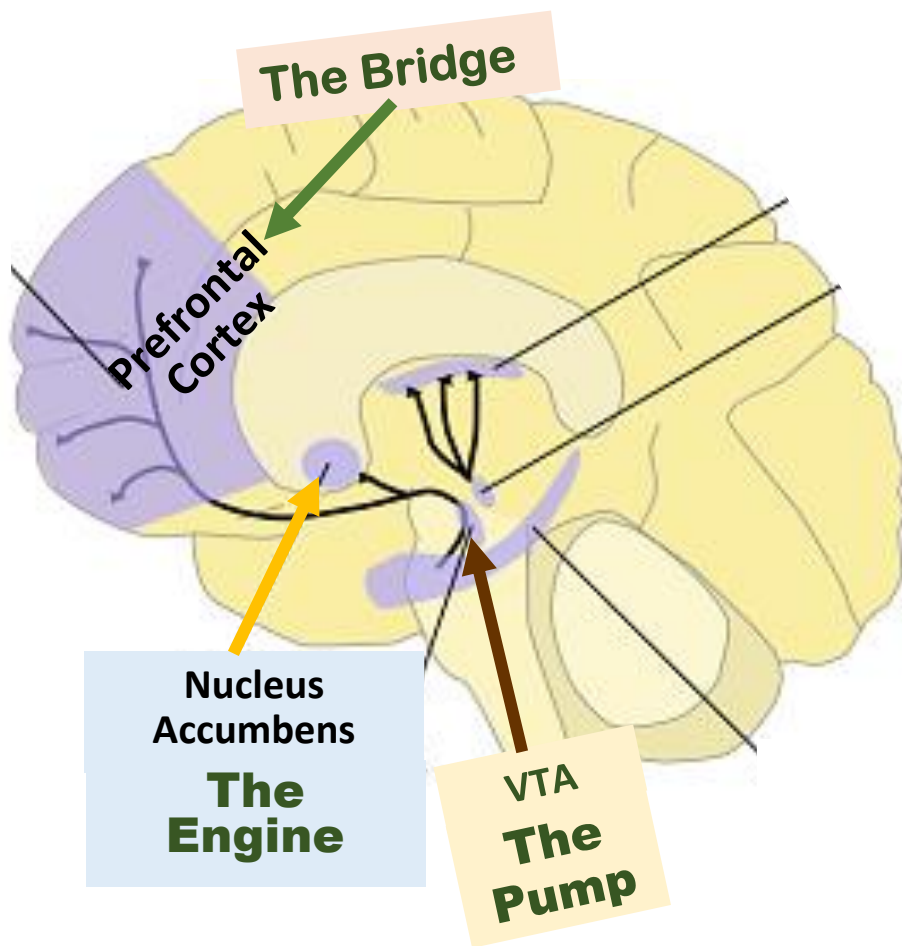
“I say then: Walk in the \_\_\_\_\_, and you shall not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another...” (Galatians 5:16,17).

Spirit fulfill lust flesh

**“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:2).**

**“The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus is the only force strong enough to overcome addictions (“the law of sin and death”).**

**“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:19-21).**



**“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...” (Galatians 5:22,23).**

**“And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:24,25).**



1. “For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and death” (Romans 8:2).

law Spirit free law sin

2. “The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ force strong enough to \_\_\_\_\_ addictions (“the law of sin and death”).

only overcome

3. “Now the works of the \_\_\_\_\_ are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, \_\_\_\_\_ ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, \_\_\_\_\_, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:19-21).

flesh selfish drunkenness

4. “But the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, \_\_\_\_\_...” (Galatians 5:22,23).

fruit self-control

“And those who are Christ's have \_\_\_\_\_ the flesh with its \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ . If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:24,25).

crucified passions desires