



Week 6

This weeks focus scripture: Romans 7:1-6

This weeks reading challenge:

- Read all of Romans chapters five through seven.
- Read Romans 7:1-6, several times.

This weeks memory challenge: Romans 7:4. This verse SHOULD rank among the most memorized verses in the New Testament, even though many people have never heard it. It is the heart of God's provision for His disciples to experience the fullness of His Life!

Study and Reflection

Day 1: In this weeks message, Pastor Ethan described the two essential concepts of 'law' and 'the flesh'. Write out your best definition/understanding of these two concepts.

The 'flesh' (Note: we will look in-depth at 'the flesh' in two weeks):

Law (In the message, we talked about three different meanings of this term that we see in Paul's writing):

Read through Romans 7:1-3. Highlight in your Bible all the instances of the word 'law'. What do you think is Paul's point with this illustration?

Day 2: Spend some time reading and meditating on Romans 7, verse 4. This is our memory verse, and a truth central to all of Paul's teaching, indeed, central to how we experience the Christian life. Consider these questions:

How does maintaining a relationship with law (as a motivation and reason for how we live) prevent us from experiencing our 'belonging' to God?

Paul says that we died to the law 'through the body of Christ'. Had you considered that one of the reasons Jesus died on the cross was to free us from a life bound to law? How does this increase the importance of this truth?

What does it look like to ‘bear fruit for God’, and how does connection to ‘law’ hinder this?

Day 3: Read and meditate on verse 5 and 6.

Based on the message, what are the essential attributes of the ‘realm of the flesh’ (from NIV).

Why does ‘law’ arouse sinful passions within us? What is the greatest attribute of sin that the law arouses within us?

Write out the differences between the ‘new way’ of the Spirit, and the ‘old way’ of the written code (law). How do you see God working to grow this transition in your life? Are there parts of the ‘old way of the law’ that you see at work in your life? What is the result, and what would it look like for these to shift to the ‘new way of the spirit?’