



— Week 7 —

**This weeks focus scripture:** Romans 7:7-13

**This weeks reading challenge:**

- Read all of Romans chapters six through seven.
- Read Romans 7:7-13, several times.

**This weeks memory challenge:** Romans 7:4. Same as last week, but this is worth it!

— Study and Reflection —

**Day 1:** If you missed last weeks message, take the time to listen to it online. Then, re-write Romans 7:4, in your own words, as a statement of what is *true about you*. Take some time to prayerfully ask God to reveal this truth, and how He is working to grow this as your daily reality. What does this look like?

**Day 2:** Based on Romans 7:7-13, what is the role of the law? Focus on verses 7 and 13.

Why is it important that ‘sin be recognized as sin?’

**Day 3:** Even though this is a difficult passage to fully comprehend, at least one clear message comes through: that law has no power to set us free from sin. Rather, Paul says, it is the very knowledge/presence of law that ‘sin’ uses to ‘stir up’ our desire to committ the very offence the law speaks againt. A simple illustration is that if you tell a child not to eat the cookies, you just stirred up a desire within them to do just that! How have you seen this dyamic at work in your own life?

In his message, Pastor Ethan talked about the difference between ‘achieving’ (living by law), and ‘receiving’ (living by grace). Thinking of this, along with the question above, how do you see God working to set you free (in your daily experience) from the trap of sin? What does it look like to ‘receive’ all we truly need from God, each day?

† **A word about this guy named Paul**  
*2 Peter 3:15-17*

† **Welcome to the New Way!**  
*Romans 7:4-6*

A few reminders:

- Law is a...
- To *live by the law* is to...

† The most important thing I barely understand...  
*Romans 7:7-13*

† Who (and when) is Paul talking about?

† The law (God's moral law) is GOOD.

† What sin does with the law

† When it comes to how we actually live (in our mind, our will, and our emotions):

- God's desire is not that we are obedient to the law. Rather, His desire is that we are FREE from SIN. And the law will NEVER set us free from sin.
- We will only be free from sin (fruit for death, Romans 7:5) when we give up on ACHIEVING good behavior, allow God to bring us to the end of ourselves, and begin to RECEIVE His provision as the daily source of all that we need.