



## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families For the week of April 9, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Warm Up

- What is the purpose of God's Law?
- Have you ever tried to fix your sin with trying harder to be faithful? How did that go?

### Romans 8:1-13

### *The Spirit Who Raised Jesus from the Dead Dwells in You*

Last week, Paul showed us that, when we read the Law, we see our sin ([Rom. 7:24](#)). God uses this as a means of His grace to lead us to cry out, and God answers by showing us that Jesus lived and died to fulfill the Law on our behalf ([Rom. 7:25](#)).

If we misunderstand the relationship between the Law & the Gospel, we can fall into legalism (*I'll do better!*) or license (*I'll do what I want!*). Both are self-centered responses making a futile attempt to manage sin. But if we see that Jesus fulfilled the Law perfectly for us by His sacrifice and obedience, we are free from condemnation.

No longer do we obey the Law because we fear losing God's favor. Because Jesus was born under Law, God is satisfied. The Law leads me to believe the Gospel.

But there is more. For those that see the Law fulfilled by Jesus, we are changed from a slave into a son of God. We are freed from the curse of the Law. We are brought into relationship with God. His Spirit lives in us, empowering us to trust and follow Jesus. The Law is no longer our judge. Obedience is a way of fellowship and participation with God! So, the Gospel leads me to obey the Law. All of grace.

And knowing that the Law is fulfilled in Jesus will revive you. Do you know you have your Father's favor, and so you are free to follow Jesus?

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<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

- What is condemnation? What are the spiritual, legal, and emotional effects of being under condemnation? (1)
- What does Paul mean by "no condemnation" (1)?
- What is the spiritual cost if you do not believe the truth stated in this verse?
- What two great blessings are given in Jesus? (1-2)
- How do we receive these benefits? (3-4)

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<sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

- **What is Paul saying is the connection between “minding” and “living”? (5-8)**
- **Give an example of how, in “minding” the Spirit, He bears out His fruit of life and peace.**

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<sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

- **What do we learn about the Spirit & His ministry in these verses? (9-13)**
- **Seeing our need for Christ is part of the Good News-- but there is more. Can you describe a time when the Law drove you to Christ for power to follow Him?**
- **Pray together in light of this week's passage.**

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,  
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