



## Grace in the Midst of the Struggle Romans 7:14-17

### I. The Reality of the Struggle (vv. 14-17)

#### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a godly man (v. 14) [Rom. 6:12-14, 17; 7:5, 15, 22, 24]

1. A godly man acknowledges the \_\_\_\_\_ of the law
2. A godly man confesses his \_\_\_\_\_ struggle with sin
3. A godly man is \_\_\_\_\_ by his own weakness
4. A godly man finds \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ alone

#### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a godly man (v. 15) [Rom. 7:18-19; Jer. 17:9; Gal 5:17]

1. The confusion is revealed by his own \_\_\_\_\_
2. The confusion is not about God's Law, but about his own \_\_\_\_\_
3. The confusion comes from the conflict between \_\_\_\_\_ and deeds
4. The confusion points to the need for Christ's \_\_\_\_\_

#### C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a godly man (v. 16) [1 Tim. 1:8; 2 Sam. 12:13; Psa. 51:4]

1. Conviction confirms \_\_\_\_\_ with God
2. Conviction reveals the difference between \_\_\_\_\_ and godliness
3. Conviction even \_\_\_\_\_ your love for God's law
4. Conviction keeps the believer dependent on \_\_\_\_\_

#### D. The \_\_\_\_\_ change of a godly man (v. 17) [Rom. 7:22; Gal. 2:20; Rom. 8:23; 1 Cor. 15:55-58]

1. A godly man has a new \_\_\_\_\_
2. A godly man recognizes sin as an \_\_\_\_\_
3. A godly man understands the ongoing presence of indwelling \_\_\_\_\_
4. A godly man lives in hope of \_\_\_\_\_ deliverance

### TAKE HOME:

- Do you honestly admit your struggle with sin and \_\_\_\_\_ God's grace?
- Do your times of failure lead you to despair, or to \_\_\_\_\_ more on Christ?
- Are you living from your new identity in Christ—full of hope and an \_\_\_\_\_ for ultimate deliverance?

# Application Questions

James 1:22 says, *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* These questions are designed to help you apply today's message in your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Do I honestly acknowledge my ongoing struggle with sin, like Paul did? How do I know if this means I am saved or not saved? (Romans 7:15)
2. When I fail, do I hate my sin and desire deliverance, or do I excuse it? Can you give any examples from your life? (Romans 7:15, 24)
3. Do I agree with God's law and see it as good, even when it exposes my weakness? How do I keep keeping the law from becoming legalistic? (Romans 7:16)
4. Does conviction over sin drive me to dependence on Christ, or to despair? (Romans 7:24-25)
5. Am I aware of the difference between my new identity in Christ and the sin that still dwells in my flesh? (Romans 7:17, Galatians 2:20)
6. Do I find hope in Christ's ultimate deliverance, even as I struggle now? What would that look like? (Romans 7:25, 1 Corinthians 15:57)
7. Am I humble and honest about my weakness, seeking God's grace daily? What does this look like in my life from week to week? (Romans 7:18, James 4:6)
8. How do I delight in God's law in my inner being, even as I battle sinful desires? (Romans 7:22, Psalm 119:97)
9. Read the take home questions. Which one encouraged you or challenged you the most? Why? How will you live differently this week based on what you learned from this passage?

*"Someone said after reading this that Paul must have been a golfer, because all golfers know that what you want to do you do not do, and what you do not want to do, that is the very thing you do."*

- R. Kent Hughes, *Romans, Righteousness from Heaven*