

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

3/25/18

Text: Romans 8:1-13 (ESV)

Title: No Condemnation

Teacher: Luke Wolfe

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In the sermon, we looked at the beginning of Romans chapter 8. As Paul has been describing throughout the book of Romans, every single person faces the reality of sin in their lives. And as we saw last week, even once we become a Christian, we still continue to struggle against our sin and strive to serve God and obey his law. What we saw in Chapter 8, then, was that Paul declares there is no longer any condemnation or judgment for our sin. For those who are in Christ, have put their faith in Jesus, the sentence and punishment their sin, past present and future, has already been poured out in God's wrath on Jesus. The amazing hope of the Gospel is that God would send his own son to become a man, who would live a perfect life that we couldn't, die the death we deserved, and give us freedom from the power and condemnation for sin, so that now all God has left for us is his perpetual delight and joy in us. We do not motivate our obedience out of fear, but out of the joy and love of God for us.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. As Luke said, we often struggle with the idea that God could condemn people for their sin and still be a loving God, but that we have too low of a view of God's holiness, and too small of a view of our own sin and brokenness.*
 - What is usually your motivation for not breaking the rules?**
 - What's hard about the idea of a God who would punish sin with death?**
- 2. There are two places we might find ourselves. We are either not a Christian, and so we are separated from God's love and under his condemnation. Or, we ARE a Christian, and yet we still live as if we're under condemnation. We live anxious and ashamed, or we simply obey out of duty, but not out of love.*
 - What emotion have you believed God has toward you most of the time?**
 - When was a time you couldn't forgive someone because you wanted them to feel the weight of what they had done?**
- 3. The amazing hope of the gospel is that God does not withhold or delay his wrath, or his anger, or his grumpiness or disappointment...He spent it all on Jesus for all of his people. All he has left for his people is his perpetual delight and love.*
 - Who in your life are you most likely to store up condemnation for?**
 - Spend some time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit, who raised Jesus up from the pit of hell, to fill you and help you to set your mind on Him.**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Prayer Items

1. Worship the LORD, that He is both a God who condemns sin and brings justice, and yet is merciful and loving on account of His beloved Son Jesus.
2. How have you lived as if you are still under God's condemnation for sin? Confess your need to God and ask Him to show you His love and delight in you.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His willingness to go to the cross and take on the condemnation we deserved. Thank Him that it is only through Him that we can experience the love and smile of the Father.
4. Who do you know that is bogged down by the shame of their sin and is living condemned? Or who do you know who only serves God out of drudgery and obligation? Pray for them, asking the Lord to reveal His love for them and to help you love them as well.
5. Read Isaiah 43:1-4. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with His love and help you set your mind on Him so that you can serve Him with your whole heart.