



Life Groups Discussion Guide

As the discussion leader, there are a few things to keep in mind for your Life Group:

- Pray for your group discussion time!
- Review your notes from the sermon and familiarize yourself with the discussion questions prior to the meeting.
- Choose a few questions from the guide which you feel will generate the most discussion in your group.

Text: Romans 7:14-25

Getting to Know Me:

- If you could do something dangerous just once, with no risk of serious injury, what would you do?
- What did you get into trouble for the most when you were young?
- What was the most significant thing you learned from the message today?

Into the Bible:

1. In v.15 Paul wrote, "I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate" (NLT). How could a misunderstanding about our human nature become a problem spiritually? What ways have you seen this displayed in our culture today? What does this show us about the importance of understanding and being able to explain our need for a Savior?
2. Read Romans 7:15-17. What do you think Paul meant when he wrote, "So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it" (v.17 NLT)? Does this verse abdicate the Christian of responsibility for sin? Why or why not? At what point does a person have to accept personal responsibility for their sin and take ownership of their mistakes?
3. Read vv.23-24 and Romans 8:5-11. In this passage, Paul highlights our struggle against our sinful nature. According to these passages, how then is that battle won? Why do you suppose Paul puts such an emphasis on the mind when it comes to living righteously? Since we know that the Spirit of God dwells within all believers (v.11), what does that mean for our battle with sin?
4. Read vv.24-25. As Paul wrote about a person's battle between sin and righteousness, he asked who would deliver him from this fight. Then, rather than giving a direct answer he praised God, saying, "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (v.24 ESV). Why do you think Paul answered the question this way? How does thanksgiving and praise help us to walk in God's grace?
5. In this portion of chapter seven, Paul addressed the battle that rages in a person between doing good and evil. Read Romans 6:16-18. What is the difference in being a "slave to sin," as mentioned in Romans 6:17, versus dealing with sin as a believer?

Application:

1. Read Romans 7:21-25. In what ways do you identify with Paul's description of the struggle to overcome sin? How does it change your understanding of sin if you see the problem not as you, but as sin in you? What does it mean to see yourself as clothed in the righteousness of Christ even though we still struggle with our sinful nature?
2. Read vv.21-25. As we strive to be more like Christ, we find that there is a war being waged between our flesh and spirit. Yet, the "answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord" (v.25 NLT). How does a person simply rest in the grace and deliverance that is provided through Christ? For you, what would it look like to stop struggling against sin, but to trust wholly in God's grace?
3. In this passage, Paul did not write about the weakness of our flesh to discourage us, but rather to show the great freedom found only in Christ (v.25). What are some ways God has brought freedom into your life as you have walked with him? What are some areas you are still striving to give to Christ and walk in freedom?
4. From start to finish, Romans seven is packed with our need for Jesus. How can we as a Life Group encourage and support one another through tough times? How can we help each other as we strive to be more like Christ?
5. What is one thing from the message or this discussion that has really hit home for you? How can you apply that truth to your life?