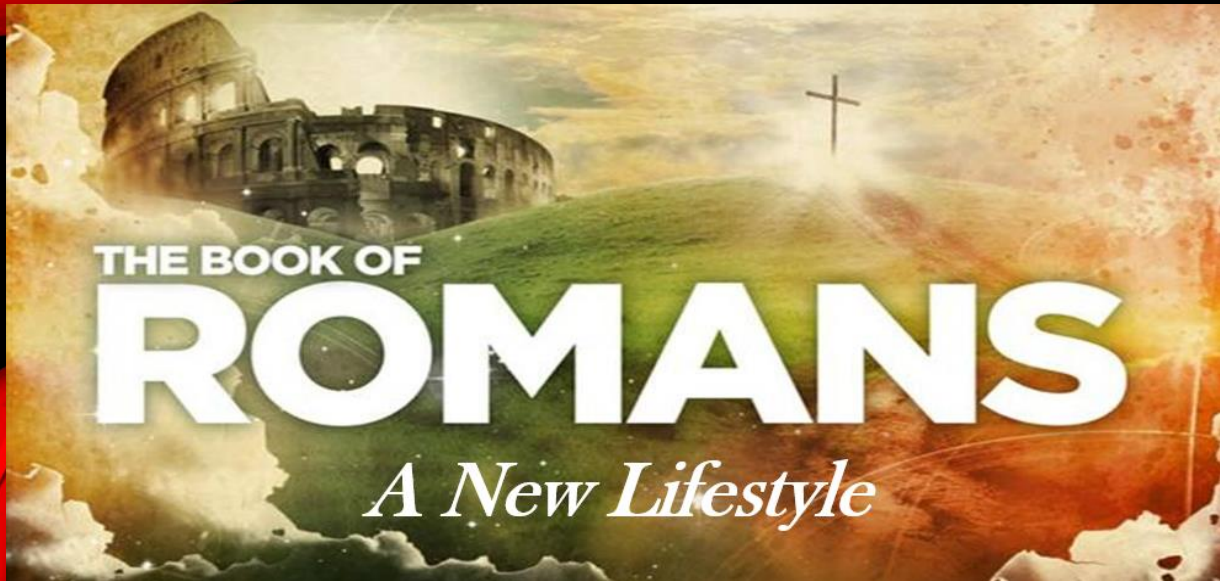


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



SRMBC 1ST & 2ND QTR BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Date	Lesson Title	Scripture
1/10/2018	Good News from God	Romans 1:1 - 17
1/24/2018	The Wrath of God	Romans 1:18 - 32
1/31/2018	The Judgment of God	Romans 2
4/11/2018	The Verdict	Romans 3:1 - 20
4/18/2018	The Righteousness from God	Romans 3:21 - 31
4/25/2018	The Example of Abraham	Romans 4
5/2/2018	Reasons to Rejoice	Romans 5
5/9/2018	New Life, New Lifestyle	Romans 6:1 - 7:6
5/16/2018	Our Struggle with Sin	Romans 7:7 - 25
5/23/2018	The Spirit Brings Life	Romans 8
5/30/2018	The Potter & His Clay	Romans 9
6/6/2018	Misguided Zeal	Romans 10
6/13/2018	The Future of Israel	Romans 11
6/20/2018	Living As Living Sacrifices	Romans 12
6/27/2018	Submitting to Authorities	Romans 13 - 14
7/11/2018	Brothers & Sisters in Christ	Romans 15 - 16

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

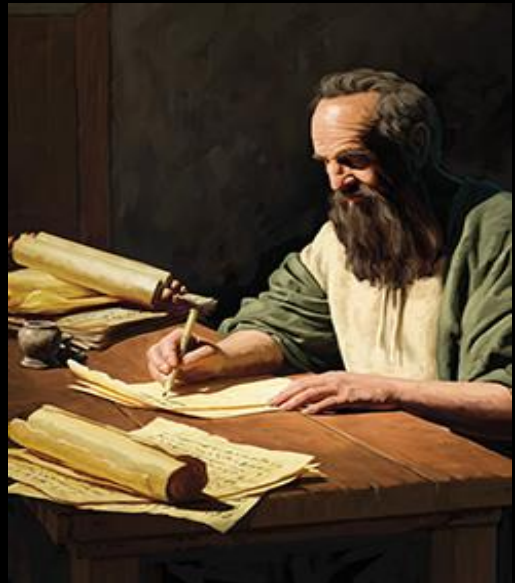
Romans: A New Lifestyle: Lesson 9: Our Struggle with Sin Romans 7:7-25

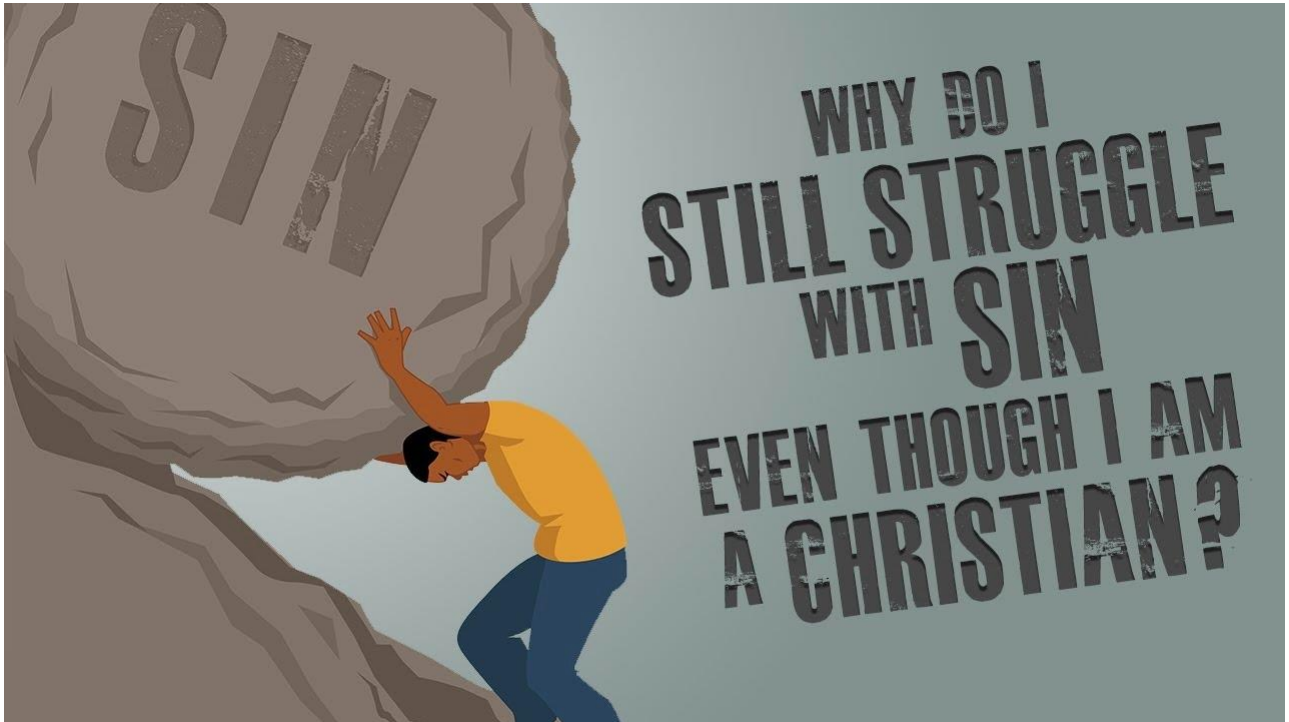
The Apostle Paul – The Letter to the Romans

- **Author:** Romans 1:1 identifies the author of the Book of Romans as the apostle Paul.
- **Date of Writing:** The Book of Romans was likely written A.D. 56-58.
- **Purpose of Writing:** His purpose in writing was to proclaim Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine and edify and encourage the believers.

The Book Of Romans Tells Us:

- About God, who He is and what He has done.
- It tells us of Jesus Christ, what His death and resurrection accomplished.
- It tells us about ourselves, what we were like without Christ and who we are after trusting in Christ.





Group Discussion:

Saying no to a piece of pie or chocolate we don't need seems so simple but is easier said than done. Why is it often such a struggle to do what we know we should do?

- What we don't want to do appeals to our flesh – it feels good, looks good tastes good in the short term.
- It seems easier to do what we shouldn't rather than what we should.
- There seems to be temptations and triggers everywhere (media, internet, society, etc.)

Romans 7:7- 12 (NLT)

7 Well then, am I suggesting that the **law of God** is sinful? **Of course not! In fact**, it was **the law** that **showed me my sin**. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet."

8 **But sin** used this command to arouse all kinds of **covetous desires** within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power.

9 At **one time I lived** without understanding **the law**. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the **power of sin came to life**,

10 and **I died**. So I discovered that the **law's commands**, which were supposed to **bring life**, brought **spiritual death** instead.

11 Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me.

12 But still, the **law itself is holy**, and its commands are **holy and right and good**.

Romans 7:13 -17 (NLT)

13 But how can that be? Did **the law**, which **is good**, cause my death? **Of course not!** Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So we can see **how terrible sin** really is. It uses God's good commands for its own **evil purposes**.

14 So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. **The trouble is with me**, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.

15 **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**.

16 But if **I know that what I am doing is wrong**, this shows that I agree that **the law is good**.

17 So **I am** not the one doing wrong; **it is sin living in me** that does it.

Romans 7:18 – 22 (NLT)

18 And I know that **nothing good lives in me**, that is, in my **sinful nature**. I want to do what is right, but I can't.

19 I **want to do** what is good, but I **don't**. I **don't want to do** what is wrong, but I **do it anyway**.

20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; **it is sin living in me** that does it.

21 I **have discovered** this **principle of life**—that when I want to do **what is right**, I inevitably **do what is wrong**.

22 I love **God's law** with all my heart.

Romans 7:23 – 25 (NLT)

23 But there is **another power** within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a **slave to the sin** that is still **within me**.

24 Oh, what a **miserable person** I am! **Who will free me** from this life that is dominated by **sin and death**?

25 **Thank God!** The answer is in **Jesus Christ our Lord**. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

1. How do the questions Paul asks in verses 7 and 13 provide the framework for this passage?

The Questions:

7 Well then, am I suggesting that the **law of God is sinful**?

13 Did **the law**, which **is good**, cause **my death**?

The Framework For This Passage:

- To answer the question If I am a Christian - why do I still sin?
- If the Law is good – why can't I keep it completely.
- Who gets the blame when I sin - the Law or me.
- Who can help me defeat the enemy that is in me.

2. Look at verse 7. What has Paul said previously that might lead to the conclusion that the law is sin?

- Paul must now clarify his thoughts, especially his statements that believers have died to sin (6:2) and to the law (7:4).
- Paul even says the law arouses our sinful nature – some may think that the Law makes us sin.
- The results of trying to keep the law brings us to death – according to Paul.

In essence, the solution of the problem is this: the law cannot be identified as sinful simply because it provides awareness of sin.

3. How did the law create in Paul a vivid awareness of sin? Why then is it wrong to blame the law for our sinful behavior?

Awareness of Sin

- The Law is good and yet sin enslaves us when we fail to keep it.
- The Law gives a name to our sin (Lying, stealing, adultery, etc.)
- The Law ignites our inner desire to sin and disobey God.



Why We Can't Blame Law for Sin

- *Just because the law identifies sin – it is not sinful (Speed Limit, Tax laws, etc.)*

Can one say of an X-ray machine that revealed a disease that the machine is diseased? That would be utter nonsense"

4. To what extent can you identify with Paul's struggles in these verses? Explain.

- I can identify with the daily struggles with sin and temptation
- Although I have a knowledge for what God wants me to do and I know that I have trouble keeping it.
- I know that even though I know I am saved, I still can feel sin's pull.
- Apart from the Spirit and power of Christ – I feel helpless and unable to win this fight on my own.
- In spite of it all – I am more than a Conqueror, victorious in Jesus Christ.

5. Why would it also be wrong to blame the law for Paul's spiritual death (vv. 13-14)?

- The Law is Good - it does not make us sin only brings us to the knowledge of our own sinfulness.
- The Law is Holy - When we sin it is because of our disobedience to the holy commandments of God – our sinful lifestyle compared to God's holiness is really sinful.
- The Law is Spiritual - God's Law confronts our fleshly, sinful, carnal nature.

6. Paul compares his struggle with sin to a war, with sin as the aggressor (v. 23). Describe the nature and outcome of this war (vv. 21-23).

The Nature of the Battle

- It is a Spiritual Battle - Evil and God's Law continually at war with one another.
- It is an Internal Battle - Because the battle is in the mind and heart

The Outcome of the Battle

- It Is a Losing Battle - Apart from renewing the mind with the Word of Christ we will lose the battle against sin.



7. How can a person's anguish and struggle with sin be beneficial (vv. 24-25)?

- We come to the end of ourselves – A wretch – helpless against sin.
- The “sin-struggle” lets us know that we are saved – different from the time before Christ came into our lives.
- It pushes us to rely totally on Jesus Christ and what He has done and is doing to deliver us from sin.
- It helps us to recognize that our inner sinful nature does not have to control us – there is something greater in us - Christ.

8. Why is it important to realize that only Christ can rescue us from the power of sin?

- Only Christ can deliver us from the penalty of sin.
- Only Christ can deliver us from the power of sin.
- When we depend on our own power we always and eventually fail.

Our desire to be rescued from “this body of death” (v. 24) will be ultimately realized only when we are resurrected (see Rom 8:23).

KEYS FOR LIVING

- *Although the Law cannot save it is still good and holy for it makes us aware of our sin and our need of a Savior.*
- *The fact that we struggle with sin is an indicator of the change the Spirit makes in our lives. If there is no change there is no struggle.*
- *Believers will only experience victory when we recognize our helplessness in our struggle against sin and that only Christ can deliver us.*



QUESTIONS

?

“WHAT A WRETCHED MAN I AM!

Who can rescue me from this body

That is subject to

DEATH?

Thanks be to God,

who delivers me through

Jesus Christ our Lord.”

-Romans 7:24-25