



Sermon Discussion Questions: Romans 5:12 – 7:25

Romans 5:12-21

1. Share a story of someone who served as your representative leader. How'd it go?
2. God appointed two representatives (or federal heads) in redemptive history: Adam and Jesus. Compare and contrast the results of Adam's work and Jesus' work to act as representatives of mankind.
3. How does your heart respond to reading verse 17? Consider Jesus' work for you personally.
4. What does Paul mean in verse 20 when he says that "the law came in to increase the trespass"? (Look back at Romans 2:14-23 for help.) How have you seen this in your life?
5. In response to verses 20-21, is there any sin that grace cannot cover? How might you apply this verse to your life today? (For example, is there any sin you haven't confessed or any sin Jesus has covered with his grace that you still carry around with you?)

Romans 6:1-14

1. Share your baptism story. What were the circumstances? How'd you feel?
2. Our baptism represents one of the most beautiful, transformative doctrines in all of Scripture: our union with Christ. How does our union with Christ in his death lead us to walk in a new life? What power equips us to surely walk in a changed life?
3. Imagine that you are talking to a friend who claims to follow Jesus but doesn't seem concerned about areas of his or her life that are not in line with Scripture. In light of these verses, what might you say to them? How might a lack of concern over sin be connected to a lack of true understanding of the gospel?
4. How have you seen the gospel change your desires and actions over time?
5. Are there any areas in your life where you are letting sin reign in your mortal bodies? What would repentance look like for you? How can your group pray for you and hold you accountable?

Romans 6:15-23

1. When was a time you felt enslaved to sin and God set you free? (It could be something small or something big!)
2. What is the difference between being a slave to sin and a slave to God?
3. Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones says, *“The New Testament method way of sanctification, is to get us to realize our position and standing, and to act accordingly. That is the New Testament way of teaching holiness is...be what you are.”* Discuss.
4. What sin have you pursued recently that you know leads to death, but you still keep pursuing it? How might you turn to Christ and find life?
5. How would you explain the gospel through this one verse, Romans 6:23? Who can you share the gospel with?

Romans 7:1-6

1. Share a time you were released from a commitment or promise. What happened?
2. What does Paul’s illustration about marriage teach us about how we related to the Law and how we now relate to Christ?
3. Now that we have died to the law and belong to Christ, how does this reality help us “bear fruit for God” (verse 4)?
4. Discuss the following quote from John Stott:
“Is the law still binding on the Christian? The answer to that is ‘No!’ and ‘Yes!’ ‘No’ in the sense that our acceptance before God does not depend on it. Christ in his death fully met the demands of the law, so we are delivered from it...It is no longer our lord. ‘Yes’ in the sense...we still serve...But the motive and means of our service have altered. Why do we serve? Not because the law is our master and we have to, but because Christ is our husband and we want to.”
5. How might you honor your husband Jesus and be faithful to him today? Is there any area of unfaithfulness that you need to repent of?

Romans 7:7-25

1. Share a time when your parents told you not to do something as a child and then you wanted to do that forbidden thing even more.
2. Based on this passage, what are some purposes of the law? How have you seen this in your life?
3. When was a time God revealed to you that you were not as righteous as you once thought (verses 9-10)? What was that experience like? What did the Lord teach you?
4. Beginning in verse 14, Paul shifts from past tense to present tense to talk about his ongoing battle with sin. How do you relate to what Paul shares?
5. In verse 20, how can Paul say, “It is no longer ‘I’ who do it?” What has changed about his identity that enables him to say this? (Look back at Romans 6:1-5 for help.) How might that help you in your struggle with sin?
6. In verse 25, Paul reveals that Jesus Christ alone can deliver us from this body of death. How might Jesus change both your present and future relationship to sin?