

SMALL GROUP LESSON -- MIND OVER BODY

ROMANS 7:7-25 / APRIL 23, 20107

Let's begin with a review of what we have learned thus far in the first six chapters of the book of Romans. For additional help, consult the pastor's sermon for this week. Fill in the blanks of the sentences below using these words: **Holy Spirit, love, Jesus, sanctified, faith, guilty, internal, justified, written, sins, God**

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US IS _____ BEFORE A RIGHTEOUS _____ BECAUSE WE HAVE VIOLATED BOTH THE _____ AND THE _____ LAW THAT HE HAS GIVEN US. GOD, HOWEVER, HAS EXPRESSED HIS _____ FOR US BY SENDING _____ TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR _____ SO THAT WE MIGHT BE _____, DECLARED RIGHTEOUS IN HIS SIGHT THROUGH OUR _____ IN JESUS CHRIST. NOT ONLY THAT, BUT BY THE _____ AT WORK IN OUR LIVES WE ARE BEING _____, TRANSFORMED INTO THE RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE THAT GOD HAS DECLARED US TO BE.

Now let's turn our attention to chapter seven in the book of Romans and see if we can come up with some answers to these questions.

1. What has happened regarding our old relationship to God's law? Read verses 1-6.
2. How has God's law been perverted from something which is good into something which can be used by sin to bring great harm into our lives? Read verses 7-13.
3. In spite of the fact that we have been saved from the penalty of sin, does it still possess the power to manipulate and take control of our lives? Read verses 14-24.
4. In verses 14-26 Paul uses the personal pronoun "I". Is he talking about himself or is he using himself as an example of what all Christians face? If he is speaking about himself, is he speaking about his life before becoming a Christian or after he was converted on the road to Damascus?
5. Here is the last and most important question in this week's lesson. How can we gain the upper hand over the power of sin in our lives? Is it something that we can do on our own, or do we need someone else's help to overcome our sinful passions? Read verse 25.

This Sunday's sermon marks the end of our sermon series on the book of Romans for this spring. It will resume in the fall. To celebrate all that we have discovered thus far, we're going to be having a "Romans Contest" for our small group meetings the week of April 30 – May 6. So spend some time reviewing the first seven chapters in Romans and get ready for a grand time of fun and fellowship during your next group meeting.