

Title: Detox: Beneath The Surface

Scripture: Romans 7:21-25

Date: 01/07/2018 Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: The only way to grow spiritually and emotionally is through Christ Jesus.

One of the most common mistakes we make in life is believing that things that are less than God will satisfy us.

The truth is, we often make decisions based on how we grew up.

No matter who you are or how you were raised, everyone of us is dealing with some level of emotional immaturity.

The sad reality is that most of us will not go forward until the pain of staying where we are is unbearable. - Peter Scazzero

You can't grow spiritually apart from knowing Jesus; and you can't grow emotionally until you deal with the things beneath the surface.

Vs. 21

That evil is present with me- Paul had an incredible conversion story. He was truly a believer in Christ. Even with that said, he states that there is 'evil' in him.

Vs. 22

I delight in the law of God- The only way that you can delight in the law of God is to be born again. Here Paul (who was once Saul) notes that he delights in the law of God. As a Pharisee he enjoyed studying it, however, as a believer he delights IN it.

We can delight in the law because in comparison to anything else, it's perfect.

Vs. 23

Law of sin which is in my members- Paul recognizes that there is a bent towards the desire of sin.

Placing faith in Jesus does not erase our sinful desires, it erases our sin (completely).

Vs. 24

O wretched man that I am-

'The ancient Greek word wretched is more literally, "wretched through the exhaustion of hard labor."'-David Guzik

Who will deliver me from this body of death? Paul realizes that he is a wretched man. He asks an incredible question.

Vs. 25

Through Jesus Christ- Paul answers his own question. Only Jesus can deliver us from this body of death. Paul looks outside of himself and unto Jesus.

With the mind I myself serve the law of God- Paul acknowledges that with his mind is submitted to the law of God.

With the flesh the law of sin. Paul acknowledges that his flesh is under the influence of the law of sin.

Most of us deal with one (or more) of the following:

I am what I do.

Truth: If you are in Christ Jesus, you are defined by who you belong to.

2. I am what I have.

Truth: If you are in Christ Jesus, you are defined by who has you.

3. I am what others think.

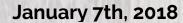
Truth: If you are in Christ Jesus, you are what the Father says you are.

Don't live your life as if God is no longer interested in you.-Bob Roland

You are one decision away from a changed life.

Our past wombs should not cause us to lose focus on what God has done in our life.-Crawford Loritts, JR.

Paul never found any peace, any praising of God until he looked outside of himself and beyond the law to his Savior, Jesus Christ.-David Guzik





DO.

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- 1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
- 2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
- 3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
- 4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

- As much as God used Paul in the early church, he was still just a man. Based on this block of scripture discus what Paul recognized in himself.
- 2. How does Paul's recognition of his own battle against the flesh apply to us?
- 3. In your opinion, can things from our past impact us today (even if we are Christ followers)? Why?
- 4. Bob Roland was quoted as saying 'Don't live your life as if God is no longer interested in you'. How can you practically apply this to your life?

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on <u>blueletterbible.com</u> or with their app.



Parents & Kids TAKEHOME

DATE: January 7th, 2018

Scripture: Abraham (Genesis 17:1-22, 18:10-15, 21:1-7)

- 1. In this story, did God keep His promise OR break His promise?(Keep His promise) Yes! God promised to give Abraham and Sarah a son, and that's what He did.
- 2. Can we trust God to keep His promises to us, too?(Yes)
 Of course! God is a promise maker and a promise keeper. He does exactly what He says He will do

Memory Verse: God is not a man, so he does not lie.

He is not human, so he does not change his mind.

Has he ever spoken and failed to act?

Has he ever promised and not carried it through? - Numbers 23:19

