

# *Jesus Helps Us Bear Fruit for God*

*Romans 7:4*

Friday, May 8, 2026

## EPISODE SUMMARY

A Lord's Supper meditation on Romans 7:4 — the verse where Paul stops us with a startling claim. We expect him to say the law has died and we are free; instead he says we died, through the body of Christ, so that we might belong to another — to him who was raised from the dead. Our righteousness was paid for at the cross, not earned by Christ keeping the law on our behalf. The cup is a cup of resurrection-belonging, and from this union flows the fruit Paul says we are now meant to bear. Not striving to earn approval, but living from the approval the cross has already secured.

## KEY THEMES

- Paul's surprise — we died, not the law (Rom 7:4a).
- The body of Christ as the means of release — the cross is where it was settled.
- Joined to the risen one — a marriage that will not end from his side.
- Fruit for God, not fruit to earn God — purpose flowing from union, not from striving.
- Belonging without fruit is a contradiction — the human response is real and ours to bear.

## KEY SCRIPTURE

*"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you also were put to death in relation to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another. You belong to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God."*

— Romans 7:4, CSB

## TAKEAWAY TRUTH

Your righteousness was not earned by Christ keeping the law on your behalf — it was paid for by his dying for you. The cross is where it was settled. The cup remembers that. And from belonging to the risen Christ, fruit comes.

## APPLICATION FOR TODAY

As you take the bread and the cup today, hear what is in them. The bread — the body that was broken to forgive your sins and end the old marriage. The cup — the blood of the new covenant, and the life of the one you belong to now. Then go bear ordinary fruit this week — patience with your spouse, kindness to your coworker, generosity to your neighbor, faithfulness in the small unwatched moments — not to earn your standing, but because you already belong to him.

## SERIES FOCUS

*Lord's Supper Meditations · CT061, CT065, CT069*