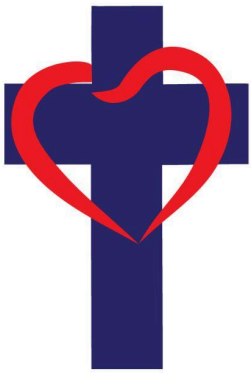

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Save the Lost · Grow the Saved

5-Day Bible Reading Plan: Understanding God's Law and Our Freedom in Christ

Day 1: The Law Reveals Sin
Reading: Romans 7:7-12; Exodus 20:17

Devotional:
God's law was never meant to save us, but to reveal our desperate need for a Savior. Like a mirror shows us physical flaws, the law exposes our spiritual condition. When God says "You shall not covet," He reveals that sin goes deeper than actions—it encompasses our thoughts and desires. The commandment against coveting shows us that our hearts naturally crave what is forbidden, longing for what doesn't belong to us. This isn't condemnation but invitation. The law points us to our insufficiency and Christ's sufficiency. Today, thank God that His law reveals truth about yourself, driving you to Jesus rather than self-righteousness.

Reflection: What forbidden desires do you struggle with? How does recognizing this draw you closer to Christ?

Day 2: Sin's Deceptive Power
Reading: Romans 7:8-11; Genesis 3:1-6

Devotional:
Sin is a master deceiver, twisting God's truth just enough to lead us astray. Satan didn't completely change God's command in Eden; he subtly distorted it, asking "Did God actually say?" This same tactic works today. Sin seizes the law as an opportunity, awakening our rebellious nature against God's perfect standards. When we encounter God's commands, our flesh wants to assert self-will rather than surrender. But here's the beautiful truth: recognizing sin's deception is the first step toward freedom. The Holy Spirit illuminates God's Word, helping us see through sin's lies. When temptation whispers twisted truths, counter it with Scripture's accuracy.

Reflection: Where has sin deceived you by twisting God's truth? How can you protect yourself today?

Day 3: Freedom to Serve
Reading: Galatians 5:13; Philippians 3:2-6

Devotional:
True freedom in Christ isn't license to indulge our flesh, but liberty to serve others in love. Paul had impeccable religious credentials—circumcised, educated, zealous, blameless by human standards. Yet all his achievements couldn't produce righteousness. When Christ freed him, Paul discovered that freedom means choosing God's will over self-will, serving others instead of self. Jesus modeled this perfectly in Gethsemane: "Not my will, but yours be done." You face this choice daily. Your pride may demand self-assertion, but Christ's freedom empowers selfless service. The question isn't whether you're free to sin—you are. The question is: will you use your freedom to glorify God by loving others?

Reflection: How are you using your freedom in Christ—to serve yourself or others?

Day 4: When the Commandment Comes
Reading: Romans 7:9-10; 2 Peter 2:21

Devotional:
There comes a moment when God's Word moves from information to revelation. The Holy Spirit awakens understanding, and suddenly you see God's holiness and your sinfulness clearly. This is "when the commandment comes"—not just hearing rules, but encountering the living God behind them. You face a decision: ignore it, reject it, deny it, or repent. Many hear God's truth but choose comfort over transformation. The cost of discipleship seems too high. But consider the alternative—remaining dead in sin. True life comes through death to self. When the Holy Spirit stirs your heart, don't harden it. Respond with repentance, making Jesus not just Savior but Lord.

Reflection: How has the Holy Spirit been speaking to you? What decision will you make?

Day 5: The Law is Holy
Reading: Psalm 19:7-11; Psalm 119:137-144

Devotional:
After exposing sin's deceitfulness and our inability to keep the law, Paul affirms a crucial truth: God's law is holy, righteous, and good. The problem isn't God's standard but our sinful nature. His commandments are perfect, converting the soul, making wise the simple, rejoicing the heart, enlightening the eyes. They're more desirable than gold, sweeter than honey. Don't despise God's law because you cannot keep it perfectly—that's why Jesus came. Instead, treasure it as revelation of God's character and His design for flourishing life. Let Scripture transform your mind daily. Gather with other believers regularly to avoid sin's deceitfulness. God's Word stands forever, true and altogether righteous.

Reflection: How do you view God's Word—as burden or blessing? How can you treasure it more deeply?

Closing Encouragement:

This week, you've explored how God's law reveals sin, how sin deceives, and how Christ offers true freedom. Remember: the law cannot save you, but it points you to the One who can. Jesus perfectly fulfilled every requirement, died for every failure, and rose to give you new life. Walk in that freedom today—not to serve yourself, but to serve others in love. Stay connected to God's Word and His people, guarding against deception and growing in holiness.