

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).



Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Romans: Grace Is Greater

Romans 7

Read Romans 7. What sticks out to you? What do you learn about God? What did you like about this story? Did you find anything hard to understand or problematic?

What, So What, Now What? Just as death dissolves a marriage covenant, believers have died to the law through the body of Christ so that we may belong to Jesus and bear fruit with God. We are released from trying to earn righteousness through rigid adherence to the written code and are liberated to serve in the new way of the Spirit.

- Are you trying to relate to God through rigid performance and rule-keeping, or are you walking in the freedom and life of the Spirit?
- Where do background differences, traditions, or misunderstandings create tension in our church family?
- How can we extend grace to one another when we experience internal struggles rather than using the law to judge or condemn? How can you demonstrate the liberating love of Jesus to neighbors who feel trapped by guilt, shame, or strict expectations?
- **The Inner Struggle?** How do you relate to Paul's honest admission in Romans 7:15, *"For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do"*?
- **Distorting the Good:** In what subtle ways do we take good traditions or guidelines and twist them into tools for self-justification or control?
- **Liberated for Fruitfulness:** What is the difference between obeying out of obligation to a written code versus obeying out of love for Christ through the Holy Spirit?

Weekly Practice:

Practice Spirit-Led Love: Look for one opportunity this week to extend unearned grace, forgiveness, or hospitality to someone in your daily life.

Anchor in Spiritual Freedom: Meditate on Romans 7:6 and Romans 7:24–25, reminding yourself daily that you belong to Christ and are liberated to love God.