

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 8

Read Romans 8. 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? Through Jesus fulfilling the righteous requirement of the law, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus; the law of the Spirit has set us free from the law of sin and death. Instead of falling back into fear or heap-firing new rules and judgments at one another, we are called to walk in step with the living Holy Spirit.

- Are you living under the heavy weight of self-condemnation or old rules, or are you resting in the freedom of being an adopted child of God?
- Where do we catch ourselves wanting to hand down "new laws" or judgment to others instead of extending grace?
How can our community better support one another during seasons of deep groaning and suffering?
How does knowing that nothing can separate anyone from God's love change the way you look at difficult neighbors or strangers?
- **Living by the Spirit vs Flesh:** What does it look like day-to-day to stop relying on human control or rules and instead let the Spirit guide your mind toward life and peace?
- **The Trap of "New Laws":** Why do we often prefer external rules or political/cultural lists over the courageous, wisdom-filled walk of the Holy Spirit?
- **Inseparable Love:** How does Paul's rhetorical question, *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"* comfort you in your current struggles or uncertainties?

Weekly Practice:

Release Condemnation: When guilt or fear arises, meditate on Romans 8:1 and remind yourself that you are fully released from condemnation in Christ.

Drop the Rules: Notice when you are tempted to judge or impose expectations on yourself or others, and intentionally replace it with an act of Spirit-led hospitality or grace.