Group Life

May 30, 2010

Uncluttered Christianity: Sanctification and the Struggles Within

Romans 7

Reviewing Romans 6
Essential Truth: A new lifestyle is rooted in a new identity (6:1-4)
Essential Truth: A new lifestyle starts with a new attitude (6:5-11)
Essential Truth: A new lifestyle develops with new habits (6:12-23)

Exploring Romans 7
The power of the law is now _____ (7:1-6)

The purpose of the law has been _____ (7:7-13)

The struggle of sanctification is real _____ (7:14-25)

Getting Connected

1) What were some of the rules that governed your home growing up? How did you respond to them? Were you likely to break them or obey them? Which were most difficult for you to obey?
2) What rules do you have now; in your workplace, at home in community groups etc?

Digging Deeper

1) In today's message Pastor Mike said that Christians are "Dead to the Law" and "Dead to the power of the Law." Wouldn't this suggest that the Law is bad or sinful? Why or why not? (See Romans 3:19-22; 7:7-13).
2) If we are dead to sin and the Law, why do we still struggle with sin? How do you react to Paul's admission in Romans 7:14-23?
3) Discuss the difference between "bearing fruit to God" and "fruit for death" (v 4 & 5)?
4) What hope do we have that we will not be defeated by the sin that we struggle with?

Growing Together

1) In light of the struggle that Christians have in "doing good" it was suggested that we "present ourselves to God", "yield ourselves to God" and "submit to God". What does this look like in your daily life?
2) Share in what areas of your life you are growing or changing; in which areas do you struggle? How can your group encourage you; pray for you?

"Once we accept the unchangeable past, we must embrace that God can change our future. While we may always remember what happened, we need to believe that we are not what happened. We are who God says we are-new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17)."
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Notes