

Greetings and welcome to a new season of Home Group notes. They have two parts, “Your time” and “Group time.” The first is an opportunity for you to learn from God’s Word as you read, listen, and learn. The second part is for you to consider and share together.

YOUR TIME OF LISTENING IN GOD’S WORD

The following questions are for us to consider before we meet together in our community group. Reading the passage and considering the questions will help us learn from God and be prepared to discuss and share together.

For this week, ask God to speak to you from Romans 8:1-17. This is a pivotal and essential chapter in God’s Word, the Bible. As we open our minds and hearts, God will help us know Him and be transformed to be like Jesus Christ in our character and actions.

Read Romans 8:1-17 a few times. What stands out? Has God revealed something to you?

The author of “Romans” is Paul, an apostle of Jesus. He began this passage with “Therefore.” This means that he is addressing something he has previously written. Thus far in Romans, we have learned four important truths:

- 1) All people have sinned and are facing the judgment and the wrath of God because they cannot fulfill God’s requirement of being righteous. (Chapters 1:1-3:20)
- 2) But, praise God, He loves us and sent Jesus Christ to be our Savior (rescuer). Jesus died on a cross and took on our punishment (God’s wrath, 5:9) as a substitute for us. Now, all who place their faith in Him are forgiven and given His righteousness which fully satisfies God and brings us into a reconciled relationship. We are declared righteous and have peace with God through Jesus Christ. (3:21 – 5:21)
- 3) Everyone who has placed faith in Jesus Christ is a new person with a new life (6:4). So, we no longer have to go on living in or be ruled by sin and the sinful desires of our past life. We have been set free from being a slave to sin and have become slaves to Jesus and His righteousness.
- 4) Yet there is still a battle with sin. How can we “put to death” this sin that we face?

Consider two passages that set the context of what Paul is addressing in chapter eight.

Romans 6:12-13 (ESV) “Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.”

QUESTION: What do we learn in this passage?

Romans 7:21-24 “So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man [person] that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”

QUESTION: What do we learn in this passage?

Reread chapter 8:1-17. What question(s) from 7:24 does Paul answer in our passage,?

What does God want His children to know about their struggle with sin?

GROUP TIME: DISCUSSION OF APPLICATION FROM GOD’S WORD

The following questions are to help us learn together how we can apply God’s Word. Our desire is to know and love Jesus, become more like Him, and fulfill His call to help others become disciples.

Read Romans 8:1-17 together and consider these questions for discussion.

- 1) What do you notice in this passage?
- 2) What are your feelings when you think about “condemnation.” (See 8:1)
- 3) Can you identify with Paul’s “war” with and being “captive” to sin? (See 7:23)
- 4) What has God revealed that we need to believe and practice to succeed in this war?
- 5) What is a next step for you? How can we pray?

(Worship) Don’t miss this. Read through the passage one more time and praise God for the amazing works of the Spirit of God.