



Topeka Bible Church
NextStep, Message #11:
"Your Next Spiritual Step: Wild Dog or Child of God?"
Community Group Study Questions
Romans 7:14-8:4 and selected passages

1. What does Paul mean when he writes that the "Law is spiritual" (*Romans 7:14*)? Who originally gave the Law (*Exodus 31:18*)? If, through Christ, we are no longer "slaves to sin" (*Romans 6:6*), why does Paul say that he was "sold as a slave to sin" in *7:14*?

2. Do you ever relate to Paul's words in *Romans 7:15* (cf. *Galatians 5:17*)? Why do we often struggle to avoid sin and live obediently to God? Paul indicates that agreeing with the Law is bad. How can this be when "the Law is good" (*Romans 7:12*)?

3. What explanation does Paul give for why he struggles to live obediently (*Romans 7:17-20*)? Is this a "cop out," which exonerates Paul from personal responsibility for his sin? Do you believe that sin lives within your "sinful nature/flesh" (*Romans 7:18*)?

4. How can we, as Christians who have been "born again" (*John 3:3*) and who are a part of God's new creation (*2 Corinthians 5:17*), still have evil present within us (*Romans 7:21*)? Are we saints (*Ephesians 1:18*)? Sinners (*1 Timothy 1:15*)? Both?

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5. How do the “mind/inner man” and “flesh/body” relate to this “war” that Paul mentions (*Romans 7:22-23*)? Who is the solution to this problem that Paul faces (*Romans 7:25*)? What is now possible through Christ (*Romans 8:37*; *1 Corinthians 15:57*)?

6. How do you respond to the truths of *Romans 8:1-3*? Why are we no longer condemned through Christ (cf. *1 John 2:1-2*; *John 3:17-18*)? Are you able to experience the freedom and assurance that come through faith in Christ?

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(UP) 

7. **NextStep APPLICATION:** Paul indicates the importance of “walking/living according to the Spirit” in *Romans 8:4* (cf. *Galatians 5:16, 25*)? What exactly does this mean (cf. *Psalms 112:1*; *John 15:5*)? How can you specifically walk by the Spirit this week? What impact will this make on your obedience to God?

Memory Verse:

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”
(*Romans 8:1, NIV*)

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