Emmanuel Lutheran Church Discipleship Training

How to participate in the "Romans Bible Study":

- 1. Live Stream: https://www.emmanuellc.org
- 2. Facebook Live
- 3. Zoom:
 - Meeting ID: 828 593 5649
 - Passcode: 45440

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Romans Bible Study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Discipleship Training "Mosaic Series"



Romans

Week 8 – United to Christ by Baptism (5:18-6:23)

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Objectives

- 1. Grow in our understanding of, and appreciation for, how Holy Baptism unites us to Christ
- 2. Let our union with Christ strengthen us in our battle against sin

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Romans Bible Study

Mankind Restored (5:18-21)

- 3. Chapters 5 and 6 demonstrate God cares about physical "stuff"
 - A. We are not Gnostics
 - B. Incarnation: The "en-fleshing" of the Word ("we touched with our hands" 1 Jn 1:1)
 - C. Corruption: The decaying of tangible material
 - D. Resurrection: Real tomb, true body and soul
 - E. Baptism: Real water; sensible

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Mankind Restored (5:18-21)

Q2:

Do you sometimes see, in the world and even in Christianity, a denial that physical "stuff" matters? How can Romans help you respond?

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United to Christ by Baptism (6:1-23)

- 1. In baptism, you are made one with Christ
 - A. His death is yours (6:3, 4)
 - B. His Resurrection is yours (6:4)
- 2. Our union with Christ and His Resurrection necessarily mean we now walk "in newness of life" (6:4)

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United to Christ by Baptism (6:1-23)

- 3. The union of faith (Christ present in faith)
- 4. The mystical union (Christ in us, we in Christ)
- 5. Baptism is Paul's reason for why we should no longer "live in sin" (6:2)

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United to Christ by Baptism (6:1–23)

- 6. The physical reality of baptism reflects the true, physical reality of our union with Christ (6:5-14)
 - A. Luther: The drowning of our "old man" is a daily reality
 - B. Christ's real, bodily resurrection means death no longer has dominion over our bodies

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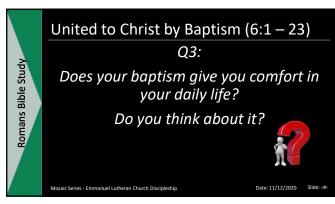
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United to Christ by Baptism (6:1-23)

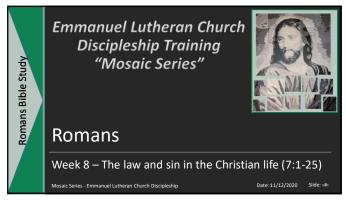
- 7. Freedom from accusation of the law (6:14)
 - A. No longer slaves to sin, but slaves to righteousness
 - B. Eternal life in Christ is a free gift

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Objectives 1. Grow in our understanding of how God's law impacts us 2. Grow in appreciation for the helps we have in the fight against sin Mosaic Series - Emmanuel Lutheran Church Discipleship

The 3 uses/functions of the law

- 1. First use: Curb
- 2. Second use: Accusation (7:7)
- 3. Third use: Guide (7:14, 15, 19, 22)
- 4. The 3 uses of the law are a reality in the Christian life

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The 3 uses/functions of the law

Q1:

How do you see the 3 uses of the law playing out practically in the Christian life?



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The law, the flesh, and sin

- 1. For those in the flesh, sinful passions are exacerbated by the law (7:5)
 - A. Natural law: Revisited (cf Ch 1)
 - B. The flesh/body weakened due to the fall
 - Sarx-soma distinction
 - Death and corruption a reality

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The law, the flesh, and sin

- 2. The law is *not* sin (7:7, 12)
 - A. The problem lies not in the law, but in fallen man
 - B. The law is holy and good (reflects God's being)
 - C. The problem of antinomianism

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Romans Bible Study

The law, the flesh, and sin

Q2:

How can we work against the pitfall of antinomianism, but also avoid legalism?

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The Christian fight against sin

- 1. Romans 7:15-25
- 2. The law of the mind (7:23, 25)
 - A. The mind transformed by Christ
 - B. Knowledge of the will of God
 - C. Serving God in the "new way of the Holy Spirit" (7:6)

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The Christian fight against sin

- 3. The law of sin in our members (7:23, 25)
- 4. Union with Christ effects a real change in the mind, will, and body

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Practical implications:

- 1. Assistance in the fight
- 2. The Divine Service
- A. Confession and Absolution
 - B. Increased knowledge of God's will (Old-Testament and Epistle lessons, Gospel, sermon)
 - C. Holy Communion: What better aid in the fight against sinful flesh than the body of Christ Himself?

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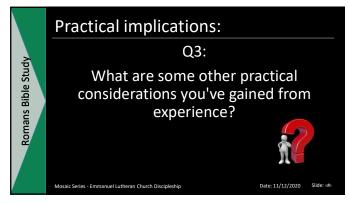


Practical implications:

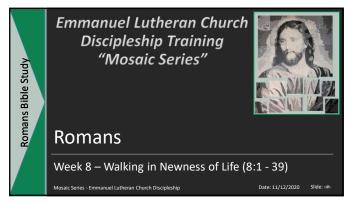
3. Real interaction in the Christian community: Mutual conversation/consolation of the brethren

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Objectives 1. Understand how and why we are no longer condemned 2. Gain a working knowledge of St. Paul's flesh-Spirit distinction Mosaic Series - Emmanuel Lutheran Church Discipleship

No condemnation!

- 1. In Christ (8:1)
- 2. The limitations of the law (8:3)
 - A. Weakened through our flesh (Again: the problem is not with the law; it's with us)
 - B. Cannot give new life

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No condemnation!

- 3. Christ: The solution to the law's limitations (8:3)
 - A. Christ sent "in the likeness of sinful flesh" (8:3)
 - Christ Himself is sinless
 - Christ took our sins into Himself, in the flesh (cf Peter: "He bore our sins in His body on the tree" (1 Pt 2:24))
 - B. Sin condemned in Christ's flesh

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Righteous requirement of the law

1. Flesh vs Spirit: The realm of the mind

<u>Flesh</u>	<u>Spirit</u>
Condemned by law	Fulfill law
Death	Life and Peace
Hostile to God	Pleasing to God

Righteous requirement of the law

- 2. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ (8:9)
 A. "Filioque" "And the son" (Nicene Creed)
 - B. Synonymous with "Spirit of God" (8:9)
 - C. Union with Christ means Christ and His Spirit are in us (8:9-11)
 - The Holy Spirit connects Christ's Resurrection to our resurrection
 - The Holy Spirit gives life to our mortal bodies (8:11)

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Adoption makes us heirs (8:12-17)

- 1. "Abba! Father" (8:15)
- 2. The life of suffering
 - A. In the present
 - All of creation waits to be released from corruption (cf Ch 1)
 - We have the firstfruits
 - B. Awaiting the redemption of our bodies
 - The resurrection of our bodies will be real
 - The resurrection gives us hope

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Predestining gives comfort in suffering

- St. Paul does not deal with predestination in the abstract
 - A. Always with regard to Christ (e.g., predestined "in Christ," "to be conformed to Christ," etc)
 - B. Always as pastoral encouragement to churches dealing with real issues
 - C. Context is key: Here, the context regards suffering

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	Predestining gives comfort in suffering
Study	Predestination connected to God's election (cf Ch 9-11)
Romans Bible Study	3. The Christian should not despair in suffering! God reigns (8:31-39)
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