

**Romans Bible Study**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Discipleship Training**

How to participate in the "Romans Bible Study":

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

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**Romans Bible Study**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
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"Mosaic Series"**



**Romans**

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The law and sin in the Christian life (7:1-25)

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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

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### 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

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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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### The law, the flesh, and sin

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Q2:

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



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### The Christian fight against sin

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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

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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:

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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:

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

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**Practical implications:**

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**Q3:**

What are some other practical considerations you've gained from experience?



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Walking in Newness of Life (8:1 - 39)

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**Objectives**

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1. Understand how and why we are no longer condemned
2. Gain a working knowledge of St. Paul's flesh-Spirit distinction

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## 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
 

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

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### 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

1. 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

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

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