

**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

Mosaic Series - Emmanuel Lutheran Church Discipleship Date: 11/12/2020 Slide: <#>

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**Emmanuel Lutheran Church
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"Mosaic Series"**



Romans

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

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Objectives – Continued

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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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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Romans Bible Study

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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Romans Bible Study

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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Practical implications:

Q3:

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




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Romans

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

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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

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Romans Bible Study

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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Romans Bible Study

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

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Romans Bible Study

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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Romans Bible Study

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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Christ and the True Israel (9:1 – 11:36)

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Objectives

1. Understand St. Paul's view of the relationship between Israel and the Gentiles
2. Understand St. Paul's view of the relationship between Israel and the Church
3. Gain a working knowledge of how St. Paul understands the concepts of God's election and predestination

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Romans Bible Study

Ch 9–11 Not just a "parenthesis!"

1. Paul's declaration of God's grace drives the question: What about Israel?
2. God does not forget His promises
3. God's Word has not failed

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Romans Bible Study

The True Israel (9:6 – 13)

1. Fleshly lineage does not define Israel
 - A. Being Abraham's descendent does not make a child of God
 - B. The True Israel are the children of the promise "so that it might depend on faith" (cf Ch 4)
 - C. Fleshly lineage vs faith (9:8)

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The True Israel (9:6 – 13)

2. Israel and God's mercy (9:14 – 24)
 - A. All are fully reliant on God's mercy
 - B. The remnant preserved by grace

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The True Israel (9:6 – 13), cont'd

1. In Christ, Gentiles are now part of the true Israel (9:24 – 33)
 - A. "Physical" Israel has stumbled, pursuing righteousness by the law
 - B. Israel obtains righteousness by faith in Christ, the True Israel


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Question 1

How does the physical nation of Israel, especially as described in the Old Testament scriptures, help reveal God's grace?



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"The Cross of Theologians"

1. "Why are some saved, and others not?"

A. Potential answer #1: God

- Double predestination
- "To the glory of God"
- Historical examples: The Reformed branch of the Reformation (Presbyterian, Reformed Baptist)

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Romans Bible Study

"The Cross of Theologians"

1. "Why are some saved, and others not?"

B. Potential answer #2: Man

- Synergism (2 efficient causes in conversion)
- Historical examples: Church bodies focused on the power of fallen man's will in conversion

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Romans Bible Study

"Crux Theologorum," cont'd

1. "Why are some saved, and not others?"
 - C. Correct answer: It's actually 2 separate questions!
 - Why are some saved? God
 - Why are some not saved? Man
 - Mystery and paradox
 - Formula of Concord, Article XI: "Hidden" vs "Revealed" God


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Question 2

Does God's election give you comfort?



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True Israel trusts in Christ

1. Read: (10:1–11:10)
2. Righteousness by the law vs righteousness of faith (10:5 – 11)

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Romans Bible Study

True Israel trusts in Christ

3. No distinction between Jew and Greek (10:12-17)
4. Physical Israel's rejection of the Christ (10:21-11:10)
 - A. The remnant
 - B. "The rest were hardened" (11:7)

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Romans Bible Study

Israel's Restoration in Christ

1. Read: 11:11 – 36
2. Israel's rejection of th Christ has led to salvation for the world (11:11, 15)
3. Paul's ministry to the Gentiles and Israel's jealousy

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Romans Bible Study

Israel's Restoration in Christ

4. Natural branches and the "wild olive shoot" (11:17 – 24)
 - A. Natural branches broken off due to unbelief (Note: Not just by God's abstract/arbitrary predestining)
 - B. Natural branches can be grafted in again by faith in Christ
5. "God has consigned all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all" (11:32)


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Question 3

Does this section of Romans expand your understanding of Israel and the Church? If so, how?



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