

## **The Letter to the Romans**

### **Freedom from the Law and the Life-Giving Spirit**

**Wednesday, September 2**

**6:30 PM-8:00 PM**

#### **Reading**

#### **Chapters 7 & 8**

#### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Questions to Consider**

##### **Chapter 7**

1. Paul in Chapter 7 presents his thesis of the continuous struggle involving the power of the law, the power of sin, and the self. Sin is presented as a powerful entity, independent of the self and in battle with the law (Romans 7:4-13). What is your understanding of the nature of sin?

2. Paul then presents one of his most famous and tortured statements, a confession (Romans 7:14-25), which ends with his saying he wants to obey the law of God, but his nature is to be a slave to sin. This is not how we wish to see our saints. How do you interpret this powerful confession? Do you think less of Paul for saying it? Can you identify with it? What are you to do?

##### **Chapter 8**

3. Paul presents the solution to the problem of sin in Chapter 8 verses 1-13. The condemnation of sin is overcome by belonging to Christ, who makes us right with God and gives us the Holy Spirit. This gift changes our lives. Is that your experience? Explain.

4. Chapter 8 goes on to say we have received the Spirit of adoption, glory, and love, and ends with one of Paul's most assuring, beautiful, and beloved statements of the love of God (verses 31-39). Does this assurance comfort you, even as you continue to be challenged by sin? How?

#### **What does this segment of Romans mean for me today?**

#### **Closing Prayer**