

Adult Bible Discovery- July 5, 2020

This study has been designed for you to do on your own or with the members of your family.

Read Romans 7:1-13

- What in these words grabbed your attention?
- What struck you as being incredibly relevant?
- The inner conflict describe in this chapter is obviously intense. Do you think it is more or less so for Christians? Why?
 - Do the following words fit what you thought? *Unbelievers are often disappointed in themselves because of their faults or failures that have led them to behavior over which they are ashamed. However, only the Christian can be horrified that their behavior has let them to betray the One crucified for them (He who justifies) and the One living within them (He who sanctifies)...this is the struggle of which St. Paul is speaking, the struggle each Christian knows and that no Christian escape.*
- What do you believe Paul means when he says, “I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, ‘Do not covet.’”
 - Sunday Pastor K told the following story: *“when we lived in Tucson AZ. I frequently went up to Phoenix for pastors meetings. When we first moved to Tucson the speed limit on I-10 was 70 mph. When going to phoenix I’d consistently drive about 73-74mph. A few years after living there, the limit was changed to 75mph; meaning I could OBEY THE LAW and arrive at my destination even earlier. So, naturally I started to leave my house or the office a little later and proceed to drive 78 – 79mph. Sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the law, produced in me the desire to commit a moving violation. Was it the laws fault...by no means I am unspiritual.”*
- Can you relate? Have you had a similar experience?
- What do you believe Paul means when he says that he was, “sold as a slave to sin?”
- How does the discussion and talk of being a “slave” relate to issues of racism and discrimination that are being addressed in our world currently?
- What is it important for us to say regarding slavery?
- What do you think about the following statement?
 - *Slavery is morally reprehensible evil; and slavery is not just something that happened in history. To this very day there are many who are enslaved in the sex trade around the world, there are plenty of places on the planet to this day were people own other people as property, and others in which freedom has truly been stripped and labor has been forced upon the weak, vulnerable and defenseless. The important work before us is dismantling and tearing down those structures that yet enslave people to this very day!*
- What is the reality these words present in our lives? In other words, how are we yet slaves to sin?
- How does Paul make clear the radical demands of the law (for perfection) in these verses? What words of Paul indicate his, and our, situation because of this? If you need help see (vs. 24).
- How, and in whom, have the radical demands of the law been met? What did this lead Paul, and us, to cry? If you need help see (vs. 25).