

## Sermon Based Study - Gateway Groups, Merced

*"Bond Together/Grow Together"*

For the week of 3/24/2024

### For you as the Teacher/Host

Begin each Small Group session with a word of prayer. Please keep in mind that the purpose of this curriculum guide is to cultivate a deeper relationship with the Lord and each other through conversation that intentionally engages the weekly message.

**Quick Review** Discuss the message briefly. Did anything challenge or confuse you?

**Opener Question or Activity:** As a child, how did you respond to the commands given to you by your parents? Did you always understand the "why"?

**Sunday's Main Scripture Text:** Romans 7

**Digging Deeper:** *(Teachers/leaders, feel the freedom to NOT ask every question.)*

Read over Romans 7:7-25

1. According to vrs. 7-8, what is the purpose of the Law? Is there any part of this that confuses you or causes questions about how this is explained?
2. Why does the Law produce death(vrs. 9-11)? That sounds drastic, yet Paul states that this "Law is holy and the commandment is holy, righteous and good." Why is this important to understand, in light of the gospel?
3. What did Paul share about his own attempts to follow the Law(vrs. 14-16)? Can you relate to Paul? Discuss how this has impacted your life, if at all.
4. How can a Christian continue to commit sins even though God is his or her master, as you review what Paul has said?
5. How heavy is the battle against sin that Paul is explaining and secondly, would you say he is blaming sin for his failures? How appropriate is it to "blame" your failure on sin? How important is hope in this struggle?
6. What is Paul's final verdict of hope in this passage and could you explain/discuss how Paul has resolved to live in this struggle?(vs. 25)
7. How can you take Paul's approach to sin and this struggle this week?

**Apply it today:** What was most important for you to remember today and why?