

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: The Security of the Believer

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Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Those who trust Jesus are safe and secure and necessarily a new nature.

Read Romans 8:1-11

1. Legally speaking a "condemnation" is a final sentence of guilt. Paul is declaring that for those in Christ, all charges have been dropped (v 1). We all carry an "inner critic" that keeps a tally of our failures. Even when we are forgiven, we often live under a cloud of "should-haves" and self-reproach. What do you think drives your negative self-talk? How can you tell the difference between healthy conviction from the Holy Spirit and unhealthy condemnation from your own thoughts or the enemy? Since there is truly "no condemnation," why do you think we are sometimes more comfortable holding onto guilt than receiving grace?
2. Paul contrasts two different drivers in life. There is the Spirit's law of life, which has set us free from the law of sin and death. Do you ever feel the pull of old habits from the law of sin and death in your life? When combating such feelings, how can we lean more into the Spirit instead of relying on ourselves and simply trying harder? What has that specifically looked like for you?



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3. Jesus Christ has set us free to enable us to walk according to the Spirit (v 4). Walking according to the Spirit implies a daily, step-by-step progression. Through your steady walk with the Lord, how have you spiritually grown? What are some habits you have to help you continue walking with the Lord and not be standing still? What encouragement would you give to others to try what you are doing?
4. The mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace (vv 5-6). What patterns of thinking reveal a flesh-centered mindset? What practical habits help you set your mind on the Spirit? How can you reframe your thoughts when you feel them moving back towards the flesh?
5. A mindset focused on the flesh is hostile to God and cannot please Him (vv 7-8). In what ways do you see resistance to God in your own heart? Are there certain people or relationships where you find yourself holding a “me first, my way” mentality? What is the proper way to please God?
6. The Spirit of God dwells in everyone who belongs to Christ (v 9). How have you experienced the Spirit in your walk with God? Have you ever ignored a prompting from the Spirit? What did you learn from that experience? In moments of temptation, how does the Spirit strengthen you?
7. The same power that brought Jesus back to life, is now alive in believers (vv 10-11). Since we don’t often visibly see wonder-working power, do you ever struggle to believe you have the Holy Spirit in you? What are some more regular expressions of the Holy Spirit that you can expect to have manifest in your life?



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