

The New Life

TEACHING NOTES

Know, consider, surrender



Until death do us part (Romans 7:1-3)



Free to serve through life in the Spirit (Romans 7:4-6)

The power of the spirit realized through knowing, considering, and surrendering

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. – Galatians 5:22-23a

KEY VERSES

Romans 7:1-25

KEY THEMES

The value of the Law
Freedom from the power of sin
Freedom to serve from the power of the Spirit

INTRODUCTION

INNOCENCE

CONSCIENCE

HUMAN GOVT.

PROMISE

LAW

GRACE

 **The Law produces death (Romans 7:7-13)**

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.
– Romans 6:23*

 **The struggle (Romans 7:14-17)**

Where does my struggle with sin begin and end?

Sin nature = the natural tendency to be self-centered and predisposed to do things our own way instead of God's way

 **The eternal struggle between flesh and spirit (Romans 7:18-24)** **The right answer (Romans 7:24-25)**

Know, consider, surrender

Lesson objective: *To rightly identify where the struggle with our sin nature comes from as well as that the victory over it is found in Jesus Christ*

PERSONAL STUDY

Study 1

Prepare your heart and mind

Begin your time of study thanking God for giving you free will which allows you to make good, life-giving choices. Ask God to expose any lies you may believe, and replace them with freedom-giving truths.

From past teachings we know that we were freed from the penalty of sin by the sacrificial death of Christ (Romans 6:23) and that the power of sin is broken (Romans 6:7). For that we can give thanks! But the presence of sin is a reality that still exists in our daily lives.

“I don’t really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don’t do it. Instead, I do what I hate.” (Romans 7:15)



Read Genesis 3:1-6 and Romans 5:12

How did sin enter the world?

These verses remind us that Adam’s choice to disobey God introduced sin into the world. From that point on sin has ruled over the hearts of all people.

Let’s explore where sin resides and the truth about our power over sin. Knowing God’s truth will help us apply it to our lives.



Read Jeremiah 17:9 and Matthew 15:18-20

Where does the struggle with sin begin?

The heart of a person is their very core and within that core lives the sin nature – a nature that is rebellious toward God. In Genesis 4:7 God informs Cain that sin is crouching at the door [of his heart] eager to control him. The same is true for us.

“Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.” (James 1:14-15)

James makes it clear that temptation comes from our own desires, which originate at the heart. These desires will give way to sinful actions if we are not constantly giving our will over to God’s. Recognizing our sin nature is key to our victory over sin.

**Read Romans 7:15-20 and Colossians 3:5-9**

What do you learn about the sin nature from these passages?

In what areas of your life are you still surrendering to the sin nature?

It may seem that the sin nature is impossible to control, but God's Word reveals this is not so. As you have seen in previous sessions, God has provided the solution and freed us from sin's controlling power. We experience this as we apply the truths of know, consider, and surrender. It is vital that we:

Know what Christ accomplished for us

Consider the truth that we are dead to sin and alive in Christ

Surrender our whole lives to the Holy Spirit

Key verse

Put to memory Romans 7:6. Place the provided scripture card where you can see it throughout the day.

Prayer time

Ask God to continue to help you understand and apply the know, consider, surrender process.

Study 2

Special note: this Personal Study will be vital to next week's teaching and discussion. Please be sure to complete it and bring it with you.

Moving forward

As we pursue growing in our love and knowledge of Christ we want to follow a consistent thought process of know, consider and surrender. We want to remember God's truths, consider how they impact our response and then surrender to what God would have us do through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit. As we strive to follow this process we will begin to see evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

Truth about God

Take some time and look back through past *Equipping the Church* lessons. Using these lessons as a guide, identify what you've learned to be true about God. Write down some examples in the space below.

God is all-powerful

Truth about ourselves

Using past *Equipping the Church* lessons as a guide recall what you've learned about what God says about us and what He's done for us. Write down some examples in the space below.

I have been adopted into God's family because of my faith in what God did through Jesus

Considering and surrendering

Take some time now to slowly read through the two lists you made above. Ask the Holy Spirit to impress upon you a couple of these truths. Take a few moments to pause and consider how these are currently impacting your life or consider how they *should* make a difference.

Having accepted these as truth, ask God to help you see how you can surrender to the Holy Spirit and live in the reality of what God has done.

Key verse

Continue working to memorize Romans 7:6. Attempt to write it out from memory.

PARENT GUIDE

Parents, after you have completed your Personal Study this week, work together with your children to help them complete their list of what they know to be true about God and what He has done for them.

Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind key truths about God. To help your child get started, discuss a few of your examples. Have your children use the space below to write all that is true about God and what He has done for us.

ADDITIONAL STUDY

The Additional Study section for Course 6 is a guided independent study of the passage that will be covered during the next week's teaching. This will prepare you for better engagement with the upcoming teaching. It will also continue to develop a healthy approach to studying the Bible on your own.



Read Romans 7

Observation

(Who? When? Where? Why? What does it say? What do I notice?)

Interpretation

(What are the key themes or truths? What is the writer's intended meaning? What is the context? What questions do I have?)

Application

(How do I apply it? What does this mean for me?)