

Refresh (September 12, 2021)

“Centered on the Gospel”

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Romans 8:1-16

1. Why is mankind condemned and what does this mean (Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-6; Romans 3:10; 5:12-21)?

2. How can Paul claim “There is therefore, no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus” (Romans 5:1, 7:24-25; 8:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21)?

Personal question: Do you think this applies to you, why or why not?

3. **Regarding Romans 8:1:** “To be ‘not condemned’ is, of course, a legal term; it means to be free from any debt or penalty. No one has any charges against you. A person who is in Christ Jesus is not under any condemnation from God...This is tremendous! It means God has nothing against us! He finds no fault in us. He finds nothing to punish us for...Paul is saying categorically that condemnation no longer exists at all for a believer. It is not waiting in the wings to come back and cloud our future...The great twentieth-century Welsh preacher D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones said that: ‘Most of our troubles are due to our failure to realize the truth of this verse’ ” (Romans 8-16 For You pg.12-13 by Timothy Keller).

What is your response to this above quote? If you are “in Christ” how does the status of being not condemned impact your daily life? What happens when we forget there is “now no condemnation”?

4. From Romans 8:1-11 describe the contrasts of living according to the flesh (the law of sin and death) versus living according to the Spirit (the law of the Spirit of life).

FLESH:

SPIRIT:

5. How do we by the Spirit “put to death the deeds of the body.” (Romans 8:12-13; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Philippians 3:10-14; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Timothy 6:6-12; Hebrews 12:14)?

6. There are privileges for those who are adopted by God as His sons. Share the privileges evident in Romans 8:14-16. Which aspects do you especially appreciate?