

MAIN POINT

God gives us freedom from sin and helps us live out our faith every day.

INTRODUCTION

What is one task that you've wanted to complete or one hobby that you've wanted to master that you've never actually gotten around to doing?

What is it that has prevented you from succeeding?

Depending on the complexity of the task or hobby, the process of mastering it can be life long. In fact, it might feel like you take two steps back for every one step forward. Sometimes growing in Christ can feel like that. Even though we were made brand new by Jesus, we still battle with sin, and the process of growing in our holiness is a life long pursuit.

DISCUSSION

> **READ ROMANS 7:14-25.**

What does Paul's inner battle tell us about ourselves?

When is the last time you could relate to Paul's statement: I do not understand what I do? How do you usually respond to that feeling?

What do we communicate to God when we try to battle sin on our own?

Why isn't it realistic for us as believers to think we can live the Christian life without struggling against sin?

How is our struggle with sin actually an indication of spiritual growth?

What did Paul mean when he said sin was living inside him?

How can Christians have sin living in them?

What two laws did Paul reference in verses 21-23? What are the key differences between these two laws? What is the battle between these two laws like for you?

What was Paul's frame of mind in verse 24? Have you ever been there?

In the midst of Paul's frustrating struggle, what was Paul's hope? How can this hope become more than just words we say?

APPLICATION

Where is God sanctifying you right now? How can you engage with Him in this process this week?