Romans 7 (Part One) :1-13 • Sin and the Law

[Note:] when reading these verses, understand that there are two sections — or thought processes that the Apostle is conveying. **Verses 1-6** are a continuation of the theme of chapter 6 concerning our freedom from the dominion of sin. **Verse 7-13** deals with the believer's relationship to the Law.

Section 1: (verses 1-6)

- What was our relationship to sin before Christ?
- What is our relationship to sin NOW that we are in Christ?
- Why is marriage a good example to help us understand our new relationship to sin?
- What is the expected result of our new "marriage" to God?
- Why is it important to understand our new relationship to sin?
- Explain the difference between being free from sin and being sin-free.
- Now that we are joined with Christ, we are destined to bear good fruit. **Read John 15:4-5.** Is the fruit we bear in Christ something that happens automatically? What does this passage say is required?

Section 2: (verses 7-13)

- Do you know anyone who is involved in any form of legalism? Why do you suppose they live that way?
- Why do you think people are attracted to keeping rules?
- What are these verses saying about our ability to "keep the Law" ?
- Re-read verse 8: What is Paul saying about the Law here?
- Read Genesis 3:1-3 What prohibition did God place upon Adam and Eve?
- How did this prohibition produce in Adam and Eve a desire for the fruit?
- What is to blame when we break the Law?
- How should you and I relate to sin now that we are in Christ?
- What kind of fruit should we be expecting in our life?
- What attitude does God want us to have about keeping rules as a means of obtaining a righteous standing?
- Why doesn't legalism work?
- Why is the Law not your enemy?