

Calvary Church: Coordinated Curriculum 2007-2008**Romans: The Transforming Power of the Righteousness of God****Mark Observations****Record Observations & Questions****Romans 8:1-11**

- 1 There is therefore
now
no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life
has set you free in Christ Jesus
from the law of sin and death.
- 3 For God has done
what the law,
weakened by the flesh,
could not do.
By sending his own Son
in the likeness of sinful flesh
and for sin,
he condemned sin in the flesh,
- 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law
might be fulfilled in us,
who walk
not according to the flesh
but according to the Spirit.
- 5 For those who
live according to the flesh
set their minds on the things of the flesh,
but those who live according to the Spirit
set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
- 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death,
but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.
For the mind that is set on the flesh
is hostile to God,
for it does not submit to God's law;
indeed, it cannot.
- 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit,
if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you.
Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ
does not belong to him.
- 10 But if Christ is in you,
although the body is dead because of sin,
the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
- 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead
will also give life to your mortal bodies
through his Spirit who dwells in you. (ESV)

Review

The believer has died to the Law. (7:1-6) When we try to live by the Law, sin turns our spiritual lives into death (7:7-12)

Introduction



Justification: How It Affects Me 6:1–8:39

Believer and Sin 6:1-23

Believer and the Law 7:1-25

Believer and the Holy Spirit 8:1-39

The believer's relationship to the Holy Spirit gives assurance of victory in Christian life.

Believer's Freedom in Christ through the Spirit 8:1-11



8:1-4 Life in the Spirit freed believers from condemnation

8:1-2 No condemnation

8:3-4 Purpose _____

8:5-11 Life in the Spirit contrasted to life in the flesh

<i>Life According to the Flesh</i>		<i>Life According to the Spirit</i> ¹	
Flesh-oriented mind-set	8:5a	Spirit-oriented mind-set	8:5b
Deathlike existence	8:6a	Vital, Life-and-Peace Experience	8:6b
Hostility Toward God	8:7a	Spirit-indwelt Life	8:9
Rebellious Attitude	8:7b	Spiritually Alive	8:10
Inability to Obey or Please God	8:7b-8	Resurrection Power	8:11



How are we forming our minds in order to allow the Spirit to form our walk?

There are many spiritual disciplines that are helpful for transformation, but the most helpful ones deal with the forming of the mind.

Key Mind Transforming Spiritual Disciplines: Meditate and Contemplate

Pondering the truth of God's Word until it becomes woven into the fabric of our everyday living.

(Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:1-2)

"Meditation investigates, contemplation wonders."

"Meditation is the act of turning our attention from the things of the world to the things of God, but contemplation involves turning our attention from the things of God to attend to God himself."²

Summary of the Process of Meditation³

REALIZE the content of God's truth.

God's truth is realized through reading and studying the Scriptures (and contemplating the works and ways of God that are observable).

RETAIN God's truth.

Even though meditation can be done without memorizing the text, some memory work must be done if meditation is to be periodically engaged in throughout the day (Psa. 1:2). Meditation generally works best when dealing with small units of the text (a verse or two).

REFLECT on God's truth.

"Ponder" is a good synonym for "meditate." Consider the meaning of the text for those who lived during its composition, then how it affects (or ought to affect) you in your workaday existence. How does it touch on your relationships in the home, family, work, church, and community?

RESPOND to God's truth.

The response involved ought to be dictated either by the direct content of the text or a logical extension of it.

Meditation leads naturally to prayer. It is, in fact, the integration of Bible study and prayer: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer." (Psalm 19:14 ESV).

¹ Charles R. Swindoll, *Classic Truths for Triumphant Living: Great Themes from Romans*, (Dallas: Word, 1996) p. 36.

² Bruce Demarest, *Satisfy your soul* (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1999) p.164.

³ Adapted from Doug McIntosh, *God Up Close*, (Chicago: Moody Press, 1998).