

Jeremy White, Lead Pastor Valley Church August 18 & 21, 2022 Week 21 – Rescued from a Mindset of Misery!

Introduction / Review:
Romans 7:9 "Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died."
The Mind-Set of Misery (Romans 7:14-19)
Rescued from Misery (Romans 7:21-25)
Paul understood that he was a new
Paul understood that he had a new
"Wretched" literally means
THE BIG IDEA:
Relapsing into a law-based mindset generates misery for every Christian. Law-based living can only produce one of two things:
 Hopelessness so that people in the battle Hypocrisy so that people with sin

Grace-based living generates the righteous character of Jesus (the fruit of the Spirit) in our lives...

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

Personal Life:

1. In Romans 7, Paul shares from his own journey about the misery of living under a law-based mind-set. Share from you own journey wherever it might be that you identify with Paul (refer back to verses 14-25 if needed).

Ponderings:

- 2. If you are a Christian, then like Paul, deep down you love God and desire for your lifestyle to bring honor to Him. Share with your group about how God has changed or transformed various desires in your life as you've matured in Him...
- 3. We also understand from Paul's writings that even though Christians love God and desire to bring glory to Him, it is possible to become trapped in sin. In your opinion, how does this happen? Try to share specifics if possible...
- 4. At the end of the weekend message, it was mentioned that living under law will generate one of two things: hopelessness or hypocrisy. Hopeless people tend to give up and live defeated lives. Hypocrites tend to hide behind a façade of outward religiosity while keeping secrets covered. Have you seen legalism work in either of these two ways in your own life?
- 5. Psalm 19:7 says that "the law of the Lord is perfect, reviving (converting) the soul." How does God use His law to bring about repentance (conversion) of a human soul?

Promptings:

- 6. Conclude your small group discussion with a time of prayer focused specifically on giving thanks. Verbally declare your gratefulness to God for whatever goodness He has poured or is pouring out in your life.
- 7. How will you bring the goodness of God into someone else's life this week? Set your mind on this question as you conclude...