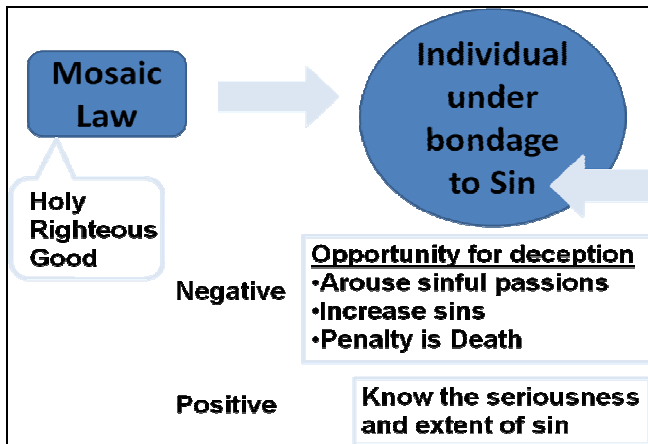
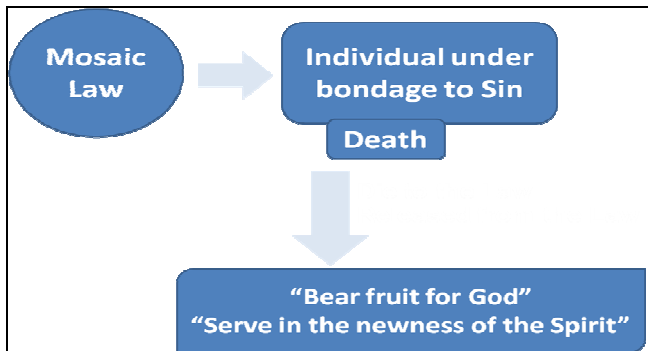
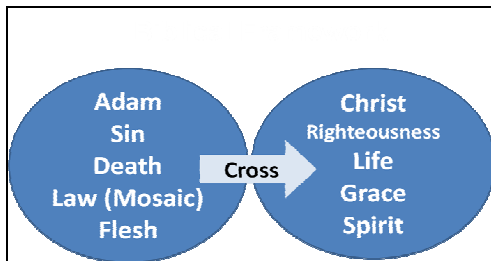


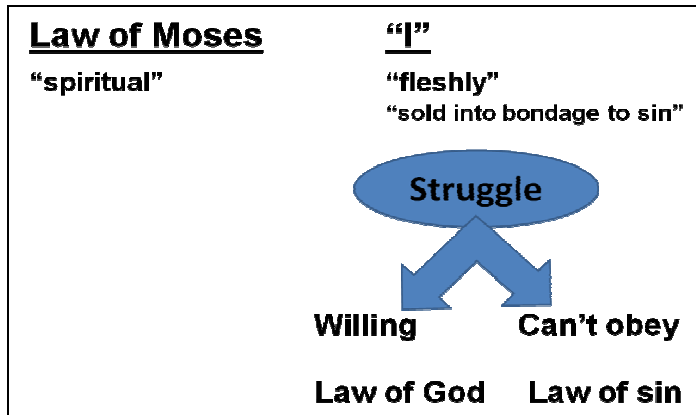
Belonging to Jesus: “Developing a Biblical Identify”
Romans 7:1-25

Several weeks ago I introduced a plan to help us become more like Jesus. This plan is an important guide to focus our thinking and our living. The plan looks like this:

- Look at the cross
 - Look to the Kingdom
 - Be empowered by the Spirit
 - Follow Jesus, arm in arm with each other
 - Reach the World

The Christian life is based on a foundational truth—the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through Christ’s death, a radical change has taken place in our lives. We now belong to Jesus. We are now able to “bear fruit for God.” We are now able “to serve in the newness of the Spirit.” Romans 7 will help us to do just that.





Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help us in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus and ultimately to bring glory to God. The biblical principle is: The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- There is a key term in Romans 6:19, 22—“sanctification.” What does this word mean? Hint: the primary meaning is “set apart” and the secondary meaning is “holy.” In light of the context, how does this come about? See Romans 6:11-23.
- Let’s focus on Romans 7:7 for a while. What does it mean to covet? See Exodus 20:17 and Deuteronomy 5:21. How does the prohibition of sin lead to more of the same sin?
- Identify a couple of truths that you’ve learned and share them with someone. What can you work on today that would help you become more like Jesus?

Wednesday-Thursday

- Let’s assume that we all are struggling with one or more sins in our lives. Based upon your reading of Romans 5-8, identify what Christ has done in your life and how you are to live as a believer.
- For example, the “power of sin” has been broken in my life as a Christian (Romans 6:2) and I am to present my entire being to God (Romans 6:13).
- What can you do today to begin overcoming that sin(s)? Share with someone what you are working on and have them keep you in prayer.

Friday-Saturday

- Romans 7:13-25 is a very difficult text in the Bible. See if you can identify the reasons why someone would identify the individual in Romans 7:13-25 to be a Christian? What would be the reasons why someone would identify this individual as a unbelieving Jew?
- What do you learn from this text that would help you in your worship of God? What do you learn from this text that will help you to walk with God in obedience?
- Share you conclusions with a friend. Spend time with that person in worship through prayer and song. May this be a very special time of your week.