



Oakwood

CHURCH

March 27 Discussion Questions

“Gospel Focus”

Romans 8:5-13

PREVIEW

“By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin he condemned sin in the flesh, 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.” Romans 8:3-4

How to Fulfill All Righteousness:

1. Find your **Identity** in Christ (v. 4-5,9-11)
2. Focus on the **Spirit** who is in you (v. 5-6)
3. Fight against the **Flesh** which clings to you (v. 7-9,12-13)

“If you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” Romans 8:12-13

OPEN IT

1. Since our topic today is on “Gospel Focus,” what is something recent that has occupied a lot of your thoughts? It could be a topic, an idea, a project, a world event, or something else! Freely share with the group!

PRAY - Pray for God’s blessing on your conversation - to illuminate your minds, transform your hearts, and draw you closer together as a group.

READ IT — Romans 8:5-13

EXPLORE IT

2. What do you notice about the transition in Romans 8:4 between the first and second half of the verse? What might this indicate about Paul's focus in the coming verses?
3. What key verbs stand out in Romans 8:4b-13?
4. What two things are being compared throughout this passage? What consequences with each are mentioned?

GET IT

5. What is Paul's primary goal in writing this passage?
6. Who is the text written to? How might that influence the way you interpret it?
7. What does Paul say about our new identity in this passage? Why is understanding our identity in Christ essential to our victory in Christ? Give an example from your personal walk with God to add to your argument.
8. According to the Apostle Paul, why is the battle of the mind so important in our spiritual struggle against sin? How does wielding the Sword of the Spirit relate to the battle of the mind? (see Ephesians 6:17)
9. How should we experience the leading of the Spirit? Give personal examples! (Consider how our emotions and gut reactions connect to the Word of God in decision-making.)
10. Why is knowing our flesh just as important for victory as knowing the truth of God's Word?
11. How does this quote from John Owen provide insight and encouragement in the fight against indwelling sin? *"The first thing in mortification is the weakening of this habit... This is called 'crucifying the flesh and the lusts thereof (Gal 5:24); that is, taking away its blood and spirits that give it strength and power... Sin ...is fastened to the cross... that... the power of sin [be] weakened and abolished by little and little."*

APPLY IT

12. What is something worldly you are tempted to find your identity in? How do God's truth and promises provide a way of repentance for you?
13. How would you analyze the inclinations of your flesh? What does that mean for the way in which you wage war spiritually?
14. How do you sense the Spirit prompting you to grow in your experience of His leading in your life?

PRAY IT

- Personal Request: Pray we would live a new, righteous life in Christ by finding our identity in Him alone, focusing on the Spirit inside of us, and fighting against our flesh.

- Ministry: Pray for Peter Castellani and the staff and volunteers at Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers as they offer encouragement and support to all women, teens, and families experiencing an unplanned pregnancy or life changing situation, regardless of faith or background.