



Growth Group Opener:

What is the best news you've ever been given in the course of your life? A loved one healed, news of a coming child, a job promotion, etc.?

Read: Romans 7:4 - 8:1

What was the purpose of the law?

Paul highlights the sin of coveting in v.7, which is the last of the 10 commandments. Why do you think he pulled this one out in particular?

From this passage, we know the law is holy, but does it bring life or condemnation? Why is this?

From this context, what is legalism and what effect does it have on the Christian life?

What, then, is the gospel and how is it different from the law? Does it bring life or condemnation?

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What can we learn about God from this passage?

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Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to look at more closely?

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Action step:

How would you explain the gospel to someone who has never heard it? Summarize it in your own words, then write it somewhere that you see it every day, put it in a note on your phone, and try to memorize it so you have it at the ready, if needed.

Prayer:

Father, thank you for the truly good news you gave us through the sacrifice of Jesus. Thank you that it is good news for all people, not just those who have our lives seemingly together. Thank you for this news that is good for those who suffer, those who mourn, those who struggle, those who are addicted, those who are educated, and those who are not. Thank you for allowing us to be the messengers here in this time, and in this place, of the best news we've ever heard, that has the power over life and death, and that can change us in the here and now to look more and more like you each day. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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