

Key Passages

2 Samuel 11-12

Psalm 51

Romans 7-8

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some key questions to get you started.

Reflection Questions:

- Have you ever stubbed your toe while walking or locked yourself out of the house? How did it feel when you realized you had caused trouble for yourself?
- Sometimes there are things that we do, even though we know we shouldn't. Do you have a habit you catch yourself doing even though you know better?

Read **Romans 7:15-25**

- What dilemma does Paul find himself in at the beginning of this passage?
- Paul explains that while he has the desire to do good, he still keeps on doing the evil he doesn't want to do. To what does he attribute this tendency to keep doing wrong?
- Paul talks more about this inward struggle with sin in **vv21-25**. What two things does he describe as waging war within him?

Read **Romans 8:1-8, 14-17**

- In **v24** Paul cries, "*Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?*" Can you identify with feeling like a miserable person, despite trying to do your best?
- Paul shows us in **vv24-25** a path we can follow to get us back on track and on our way to mending our wounds:
 - 1) Acknowledging our sin
 - 2) Acknowledging we need rescuing
 - 3) Asking to be rescued
 - 4) Thanking God that Jesus is our rescuer.
- How does Jesus rescue us from our own sinful nature and self-sabotaging?
- In **Romans 7**, Paul spoke about the internal war between God's law and the law of sin. According to **Romans 8:1-2**, which side wins? And what (or whom) brings about that victory?
- According to **v3**, what did God do to give us that freedom?
- Thanks to what Jesus was able to accomplish as a sin offering on our behalf, we no longer have to live according to our sinful nature. In **v4**, what should we be living according to, instead?
- In **vv5-8**, Paul explains the difference between those who live according to sinful nature and those who live according to the Spirit. In what ways are the two different?
- According to **v17**, what comes along with being a child of God?