

A Study Guide

for the book

Forever His

by Marvin Moore

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Introduction

Welcome to this series of study guides for the book *Forever His* by Marvin Moore. We hope you are blessed spiritually as you read the book and reflect on the meaning of Romans through these study guides.

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Thank you for honoring our copyright. And may God bless you and your friends in your study of Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome!

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Study Guide #1 for Chapter 2 of

Forever His

Romans 1:16, 17

1. How can you know whether you misunderstand God in some way?
2. Do you ever feel afraid of God or ashamed of yourself as you think of yourself "standing" in His presence? If your answer is Yes, what causes these feelings?
3. Read John 8:44 and Isaiah 61:1 (compare Luke 4:14-18). How can you experience the freedom in your relationship with God that these texts suggest?
4. Do you sometimes feel more comfortable thinking about Jesus than you do about God? If so, why? Is this realistic? What Bible text or texts might respond to your feelings?
5. Name some expectations you think God has for your life. What biblical evidence can you think of that supports your thoughts? How do you feel about God's expectations of you?
6. Do you struggle with a sin for which you feel terribly condemned and unacceptable to God? What do you think it would take for you to feel acceptable to God? What biblical evidence can you give for your conclusion?
7. What do you think of the author's suggestion that God accepts sinners and establishes a relationship with them before they've overcome their sins? Can you give biblical evidence for your response?
8. In what ways do you see Romans 1:16, 17 providing an answer to any discomfort you may feel in your relationship with God?
9. What does the word *salvation* mean in verse 16? Why does it take the power of God to save a person? Why do you think it takes belief (or faith) to access that power?
10. Why did Paul say that salvation is "first for the Jew, then for the Gentile"?
11. What is the "righteousness from God" that Paul spoke about in verse 17? What is "the gospel," and how does it reveal God's righteousness?

Study Guide #2 for Chapter 3 of

Forever His

1. The Bible says that every human being is a sinner (Romans 3:23), but we all like to think the best of ourselves, and we sometimes excuse our sins in order to look good. Can you think of some ways you've seen this tendency in someone else? In what ways have you seen it in yourself?
2. Describe the relationship between behavioral sin and sins of the mind and heart. What biblical evidence can you show in support of your conclusions.
3. Does God view sin as rebellion any differently than He does behavioral sin and sins of the mind and heart? Does the Bible have anything to say about this?
4. What causes a particular sin to become an addiction? Does the Bible say anything about addiction?
5. Do you agree or disagree with the idea that human beings are sinful by nature? What biblical evidence can you show in support of your conclusion?
6. What's your opinion about the author's conclusion that God's anger in response to sin is consistent with His love? Read Romans 1:18-20. Is it fair for God to exercise His wrath against pagans who haven't had the revelation in the Bible that Jews and Christians have?
7. In the last part of chapter 3 the author spoke about the legal and experiential aspects of sin. Read those pages, then reflect on the relationship between the two. What cause-to-effect relationships do you see between them?
8. Have you ever felt the horrible sense of condemnation that the author describes on the last two or three pages of the chapter? He says that Paul will outline God's solution to this problem in chapters 3 and on in Romans. From what you already know about Romans and about the Bible as a whole, how would you explain that solution? Do you find that this solution works in your own life? In what ways are you still learning to make it work?
9. If you've been struggling for a long time with a particular temptation, look for the way out as you read *Forever His*.

Study Guide #3 for Chapter 4 of

Forever His

Romans 3:20-22

1. The King James Version says that no one will be *justified* in God's sight by keeping the law whereas the New International Version says no one will be *declared righteous* by keeping the law. Explain how "declared righteous" and "justified" mean the same thing. (See *SDA Bible Commentary*, 6:500; 8:616, 17).
2. Read Romans 3:21. What do you think Paul meant by his statement that God's righteousness is made known *apart from law*? Is there a sense in which the law reveals God's righteousness?
3. How do the law and the prophets (the Old Testament) *testify* of God's righteousness? What Old Testament texts can you cite that testify of God's righteousness?
4. Read page 62 in *Steps to Christ* and identify the sentences in which Ellen White discusses the concept of justification. In what ways does she agree with Paul? In what ways does she go beyond Paul?
5. What did Paul mean by the word *all* in Romans 3:22? Is the "all" in verse 22 the same as the "all" in verse 23? Who is the "all"?
6. What did Paul mean by his statement at the very end of the verse that "there is no difference"? "Difference" between what and what?
7. Is the "righteousness from God" that Paul talks about in Romans 3:22, which we receive by faith, the legal, forensic aspect of justification or the experiential aspect?
8. In what sense are you truly righteous when you've accepted the "righteousness from God" that Paul talks about? Is there a way in which still you are not?
9. Have there been instances in your life when you've felt that God couldn't accept you because of your sins? How have you dealt with this problem in the past? In what ways has reading this chapter made a difference in how will you relate to this problem in the future?

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Study Guide #4 for Chapter 5 of

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1. Explain why Jesus' death on the cross makes possible your eternal life. Support your explanation with two or three Bible texts. How would you respond to a non-Christian friend who said the idea of salvation and eternal life didn't make sense to him or her? How would you respond to a Christian friend who felt he or she was too sinful to deserve salvation? Is either of these persons truly not saved?

2. Think of one or two instances in the past when events in your life seemed troubling and confusing. Write a paragraph describing the lessons in trust that you learned from these situations.
3. Do you feel guilty about a sin that you still have not been able to overcome? Read Psalm 51:1-12. Then read it again, out loud, and wherever you can do so, mention the sin that you prayed about in question 3. In a group study you may prefer to read and mention your sin silently.
4. Write a paragraph stating your desire to overcome your sin and your commitment to pursue victory regardless of how painful that may be or how long it may take. A powerful strategy for victory is to discuss your sin with at least one other person or group that you trust. Consider reading your commitment for victory to your group, or to at least one person whom you trust. This takes courage, but it can hasten your victory.
5. Define repentance, then explain the relationship between the Faith Key and repentance. (Read Ellen White's definition of repentance in *Steps to Christ*, page 23).
6. Compose a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that expresses your acceptance of Christ's righteousness that justifies you as you struggle to overcome your sin. Then bow your head and say that prayer, out loud if you're alone, silently if you're doing this exercise as a group study and haven't shared the sin with the group. Then share with the group how you felt about your relationship with Jesus after saying this prayer.

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Study Guide #5 for Chapter 6 of

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Romans 3:23-25

1. Read the first two pages of chapter 6 in *Forever His*, in which the author makes the point that Christians who adopt the Faith Key as an operating principle in their lives don't break their relationship with Jesus when they sin. Compare this with Isaiah 59:1, 2. Can you harmonize these views?
2. Now read verses 3-18. What difference does the context make in your explanation?
3. Read the paragraphs under the subhead "Grace" in chapter 6. Then explain in your own words why the concept of legal or forensic justification is important in your struggle to overcome a besetting sin.
4. Read Galatians 3:13. How did Christ become a curse for you? Explain why that's important.

5. Read the words of a hymn from the *Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* about Christ's death on the cross (see especially numbers 154-164). Using the words of the hymn, reflect on what it cost Jesus to bring you justification. How does this hymn affect your feelings about His sacrifice on your behalf? Now sing the hymn.
6. Have you ever felt that God condemns you because of your sins? Close the book *Forever His* and write a prayer praising God that you are not under His wrath and condemnation.
7. Write another prayer thanking Jesus that you're perfect in His sight through His righteousness that's attributed to you. Keep these prayers to one sentence. Then carry them with you in a pocket or purse and say one of them the next time you feel tempted to sin.
8. Think of a temptation that troubles your mind, then explain the condition under which the Holy Spirit can enter your mind when it's engaged in these thoughts. What can you do to cooperate with the Spirit's efforts on your behalf?
9. How does the cross demonstrate God's justice? How does it demonstrate His mercy?
10. Write a prayer praising God for His justice and mercy.

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Study Guide #6 for Chapters 7 and 8 of

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Romans 4:1-12

1. In Romans 4:2 Paul used the word *justified*, which the NIV also translates "declared righteous" in chapter 3:20. However, in chapter 4:2, expressing the same concept, he used the expression "to credit as righteousness." What is the similarity between "declared righteous" and "credit as righteousness"? How are they different, and what does each difference contribute to our over-all understanding of what it means to be justified? (Note: Verses 4 and 5 expand on the meaning of "credit as righteousness.")
2. What is the "blessedness" of being forgiven that David speaks about in Psalm 32:1, 2, which Paul quoted in Romans 4:7, 8? Describe how you feel when you know God has forgiven you.
3. Explain why Paul went to such lengths to downplay circumcision in verses 9 to 12. (See Galatians 5:1-12, where Paul expounded at length on the problem of circumcision that was being urged by Jewish Christians.)
4. What issues among Adventists today would Paul condemn as righteousness by works? Are you aware of practices in your life that used to be very important to you but which

you now realize were a form of righteousness by works? Name them and explain why they were a form of works.

5. Read verses 13 to 15. What did Paul say is the function of law? What does this mean? What other function of law did Paul mention earlier in Romans, and how is that related to what he said in these verses?

6. Have you been through a difficult experience that caused you to question God's care for you and His leading in your life? What encouraging lesson have you learned from Paul's description of Abraham's faith, given his repeated disappointment in God for not giving him the son He had promised?

7. Paul made two statements about salvation in verse 25. What does each one mean?

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Study Guide #7 for Chapter 9 of

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Romans 5:1-11

1. How has a better understanding of justification contributed to a greater sense of peace in your relationship with God and Jesus? Paul said that Christians can actually boast about their relationship with Jesus since they've been justified. In what ways can you identify with this in your experience?

2. Paul said that, because they've been justified, Christians can even boast about their sufferings! Compare what Paul said with James 1:2-4 and 1 Peter 4:12-19. What suffering have you experienced? Reflect on the character traits it has developed in you.

3. If suffering has caused you to feel angry, bitter, or resentful toward God or another person, reflect on how the lessons about justification that you've learned from previous chapters of *Forever His* might help you to have a more positive outlook. Write a paragraph or two about your reflections.

3. In verse 6 Paul said that "we were still powerless." In what ways have you felt powerless over your temptations and sins? Paul also said that "when we were still powerless, *Christ died for the ungodly*." What did Christ's death accomplish that can make a difference in your powerlessness over temptation?

4. In verses 9 and 10 Paul made two "how much more" statements in which he compared two things. In each case, the second point of the comparison was "much more" than the first one. Identify each side of the equation in each verse. What does this comparison contribute to your understanding of justification?

5. In verses 9 and 10 Paul reflected on reconciliation as it applies to unconverted people and converted people. What is the difference? In what sense have unconverted people been reconciled to God?

6. Examine verse 9 carefully. Is there a limit to what justification can accomplish in the life of a believer?

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Study Guide #8 for Chapter 10 of

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Romans 5:12-21

1. In this passage Paul suggests that as a result of Adam's sin every human being became a sinner. Does this mean that newborn babies, who have never committed a sin, are nevertheless sinners? If your answer is Yes, in what sense are they sinners? If your answer is No, are babies in a saved condition at the time they are born, or do they need salvation like everyone else?

2. In verse 13 Paul stated, correctly, that the law had not yet been given prior to Sinai. How, then, could God hold people accountable as sinners prior to Sinai?

3. Just as light is the opposite of dark and dry is the opposite of wet, so two or three verses in this passage suggest that justification has an opposite. What did Paul say is the opposite of justification? Reflect on the meaning of each alternative. Can you relate to each one in your experience?

4. In verse 19 Paul said that "through the obedience of one man [Jesus] the many will be made righteous." Who are "the many" who are made righteous by Jesus' obedience? Are you one of them? How does Jesus' obedience make you righteous? Do you *feel* righteous? How can you *be* righteous through Jesus if you don't *feel* righteous through Him? Is there any sense in which you can truly claim to be perfect? (See *Steps to Christ*, page 62).

5. Was it fair for Adam's one sin to make every human being after him a sinner and therefore doomed to die? If your answer is Yes, how was it fair? If your answer is No, then was it unfair for Christ's death to justify those who accept Him and put them back in a right relationship with God? Is it fair that nonbelievers cannot be saved by His death?

6. Read verses 20 and 21. How did the addition of the law (obviously at Sinai) increase sin? Did grace also increase at that time?

7. What does the word *reign* mean? What is the significance of Paul's use of the word in verse 21?

Study Guide #9 for Chapter 11 of

Forever His

1. Read the following texts: 1 Corinthians 1:2, in which Paul called the Corinthian Christians "saints"; then read about their sins and character defects in chapters 1:10-17; 3:1-9; 5:1-5, 9-13; 6:1-8. What does it take to be called a "saint"?
2. The author said the Corinthian Christians were saints because they had been set apart for a holy use. Explain what it would mean for you to be set aside for a holy use, especially in light of the temptations and character defects that you struggle with.
3. What evidence can you see in your life that you are *being* sanctified?
4. Read John 3:1-8; Romans 12:2; 1 Peter 1:3, 23; 2 Peter 1:4. What insights do these verses provide on the meaning of conversion or the new birth?
5. How can you know that you've been born again? What evidence can you look for that can give you reasonable assurance that God is at work in your life? (See *Steps to Christ*, pages 57-65). If you still yield to temptation from time to time, is this evidence that you are not converted? Why or why not?
6. What is the relationship of The Faith Key (pages ??? of *Forever His*) to justification and sanctification?
7. Why is it impossible to be justified without being converted or converted without being justified? Is it possible to be justified without being sanctified?
8. What evidence do you see that the process of sanctification is at work in your life? Does this provide you with legitimate assurance that God has accepted you and that you are in a saving relationship with Jesus?
9. Read John 17:17. Which definition of the word *sanctify* did Jesus have in mind? What is "the truth"? How does it provide that sanctification? In John 8:32 Jesus said that "the truth will set you free," and verses 33 and 34 suggest that He had in mind freedom from sin. How can "the truth" set you free of your sins?

Study Guide #10 for Chapter 12 of

Forever His

Romans 6:1-8

1. Read Romans 6:1, 2. The issue Paul was dealing with is what we today sometimes call "cheap grace"—using the gospel of righteousness by faith as an excuse to continue sinning. Paul vigorously denied that this is what he was teaching. What attitude and behaviors would have to be evident in your life for the charge of cheap grace to be true of you? Under what circumstances would it not be true?
2. In verse 3 Paul said, "We died to sin." Explain what you understand this to mean. Suppose you sin after you thought you had died to sin. Does this mean you didn't really die to sin? Under what circumstances would your answer be Yes, and under what circumstances would it be No?
3. What evidence of the "old self" do you see in your life? How would you explain the meaning of Paul's statement that your old self must be crucified with Christ (verse 6)?
4. What evidences do you think Christians can reasonably point to in their lives as indications that they have been united with Christ in His death and resurrection and are therefore converted? Do you see any such evidence in your life?
5. Read verse 5. What does it mean to be united with Christ in His death? What does it mean to be united with Him in His resurrection? What will your life be like when Paul's promise in verse 5 has been fulfilled for you?
6. In verse 6 Paul spoke about slavery to sin. What does it mean to be a slave to sin? What is the life of a person like who's a slave to sin?
7. In verse 7 Paul spoke of freedom from slavery to sin. What is the life of a person like who has been freed from slavery to sin?
8. Can you identify any wrong habits in your life that make you a slave to sin? Based on what you've read in verses 1 to 6 and in the book, what specific steps can you take right now to obtain freedom from that slavery?

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Study Guide #11 for Chapter 13 of

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Romans 6:9-13

1. Explain in your own words why the work we do to overcome our character defects is not a compromise of the gospel of righteousness by faith.
2. In verse 11 Paul said, "Count yourselves dead to sin." What does it mean to be dead to sin?

3. Paul also said we should count ourselves to be "alive to God in Christ Jesus." What does it mean to be "alive"? What does it mean to be "alive *to God*"?
4. In verses 9 and 10 Paul said that the mastery of death and sin over Christ's life was broken. In verse 11 he said, "*In the same way*, count yourselves dead to sin." How can we count ourselves dead to sin the same way Christ did?
5. In verse 12 Paul said, "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body." Go back to the first page of chapter 9 and review the meaning of the word *therefore*. What is the significance of *therefore* in this verse?
6. What is the "mortal body" Paul spoke about in verse 12? What does it mean for sin to "reign" in that body? What can you do to "not let" that happen in your life?
7. Think of an evil desire that sometimes tempts you, that wants to "reign" over you. What is the relationship between that desire and your mortal body? What can you do to "not let" that desire control your behavior?
8. Read verse 13. What is an "instrument of wickedness"? What is an "instrument of righteousness"? How can your body become an instrument of wickedness? How can it become an instrument of righteousness?
9. Is there a difference between "offering" your body and its parts as instruments of righteousness" and simply doing righteous deeds? What's the significance of the word *offer*?
10. What can you do to *offer* your body and its parts to God as instruments of righteousness?
11. What is the theological significance of the order of verses 11 to 13? What would be the effect of reversing them?

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Study Guide #12 for Chapter 14 of

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Romans 6:14

1. Read John 3:17. What is the significance of this verse in light of what you read in this chapter about condemnation?
2. What would be the significance to us if Jesus had come to condemn the world?
3. Read Galatians 3:1-3. How might these verses apply to Seventh-day Adventists today? Can they apply to our lifestyle standards? If your answer is Yes, explain why.

4. Describe the proper application of grace to your sins. Explain the difference between this and cheap grace.
5. Write a paragraph describing how an appropriate application of justification can make it easier to live in harmony with the Adventist lifestyle standards.
6. Why is a correct understanding of justification as forensic (legal) essential to the grace attitude? Why is it essential to victory over sin? How can a misapplication of forensic justification lead to cheap grace?
7. Describe the relationship of conversion to the grace attitude. Is it possible for a converted person to have the law attitude?
8. Does grace accept your sins? If your answer is Yes, how? If your answer is No, what does the grace attitude accept?
9. Have you ever felt afraid of God because of your sins? What is the word for that feeling? Explain the effect this feeling had on your ability to overcome those sins.
10. Is guilt and condemnation ever appropriate in the life of the Christian? Explain why or why not. What steps can a Christian take to overcome guilt and condemnation?
11. In what ways do you see the law attitude in your relationship to yourself? In what ways do you see it in your relationship to others? In what ways do you see the grace attitude? What can you do to cultivate the grace attitude?
12. What would be an appropriate step for you to take should you see a church member criticizing another member because of their way of life? How would you affirm both the member being criticized and the Christian way of life?

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Study Guide #13 for Chapter 15 of

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Romans 6:15-23

1. What modern objection to the gospel of justification by grace alone through faith have you heard that's similar to Paul's question, "Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? What is an appropriate response?
2. Explain Paul's response to that objection in the next two or three verses.
3. What's the difference between slavery in real life and the slavery to obedience that Paul spoke about in verse 16? Can you think of any differences between slavery to sin and slavery to obedience?

4. What choices are involved in obeying Paul's "form of teaching" that makes a Christian a slave to righteousness?
5. The struggle with temptation usually involves a conflict between what we would like and what we know we ought to choose. How, then, can we obey "wholeheartedly," or, as the Greek says, "from the heart"? What does it mean to obey "from the heart"?
5. Explain what Paul meant when he said in verse 18 that Christians have been "set free from sin."
6. Read verse 19. What were the "human terms" Paul used? What did he mean by saying that the Christians in Rome were "weak in your natural selves"? How did his human terms help them to deal with this weakness? How does all this apply to you today?
7. Review the definitions of sanctification in chapter 11. Which one fits best with what Paul said in verses 19 to 22?
8. In light of verses 16 to 22, explain why Christians should not expect instant victory over sin. What is the spiritual consequence of expecting instant victories?
9. There's a tension between the fact that Christians are supposed to be slaves to righteousness, yet they fall back into sin, and they aren't supposed to expect instant victories. What have you learned in your study of Romans so far that can help you to be at peace with this tension?

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Study Guide #14 for Chapter 16 of

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1. Why did God plan that salvation should be by grace through faith rather than by works and obeying the law? Isn't obedience a good thing?
2. Is obedience a condition of salvation?
3. One function of the law is to condemn. Is that a good thing? If Jesus didn't come into the world to condemn the world (John 3:17), why does the law condemn us?
4. Jesus said He didn't come to do away with the law but to fulfill it (Matthew 5:17, 18). Based on the definitions of law that you read in this chapter, which law do you think He had in mind? How did Jesus fulfill the law?
5. Read Romans 3:31. How does faith uphold the law?
6. Are the standards of the church the same thing as the moral law? Answer the question in terms of each of the definitions of law in this chapter of *Forever His*.

7. Is it possible to know what sin is apart from God's moral law? If your answer is No, what did Paul mean in Romans 2:14, 15? If your answer is Yes, how is it possible to know what sin is apart from the law? And if we can know what sin is apart from God's law, why do we need the law?

8. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth (John 16:13). That being the case, why do we need an external moral code to tell us what is right and wrong? Why not let the Spirit guide us into the moral truths contained in the law?

9. In 1 Timothy 1:8 Paul said that "the law is good if one uses it properly." What *proper* use of the law did he have in mind? In verses 9 and 10 he said that the law was not made for the righteous but for rebels and sinners. Did he mean that the righteous don't need the law?

10. What does Revelation 14:12 suggest about the relationship of God's people to the law and righteousness by faith during the final days of earth's history?

11. Will righteousness by faith be necessary after the close of probation? Will obedience be necessary?

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Study Guide #15 for Chapter 17 of

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Romans 7:1-13

1. Have you ever felt "alive to the law"? Describe the feeling. What would the opposite attitude be? (see Romans 7:4). Have you ever felt that?

2. What does Paul's statement that Christians are married to Christ imply about your relationship to Him? How does your death to the law contribute to that relationship?

3. Can you think of a time in your life when the law (any requirement stated in the Bible) aroused in you a desire to do what you knew you shouldn't? What was your response then? What would it be today?

4. In verse 6 Paul said that we have been "released from what once bound us." What is it that "bound us"? Have you ever felt that binding? If so, describe it. Also describe the release if you feel you've also experienced that.

5. What is the difference between serving God "in the new way of the Spirit" and serving Him "in the old way of the written code"? Give an example of each. How can you tell which mode you are operating in? How could a person observing you tell which mode you were operating in?

6. Did Paul discuss justification in Romans 7:1-6? Did he discuss sanctification?
7. Is there any significance to Paul's choice of a commandment to illustrate his point that "I would not have known what sin was except through the law"? What difference might it have made if he had chosen one of the other ten?
8. Paul said that once he was "alive apart from the law." Have you ever experienced that? If you have, describe it. What was it like when "the commandment came, sin sprang to life" and you "died"? Were those good experiences? Were they necessary experiences? If so, how? Why?
9. In verse 13 Paul said that the law "produced death in me." What was this death? How was it "in" him? How can this same death be "in" you? What did Paul say was the purpose of this death "in" him?

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Study Guide #16 for Chapter 18 of

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Romans 7:14-25

1. In verse 14 Paul said that "the law is spiritual but I am unspiritual." How is the law "spiritual"? What does it mean for a person to be "unspiritual"? How can a Christian be at the same time both acceptable to God and yet unspiritual?
2. In verse 15 Paul said he could not understand his actions. However, he could obviously describe them quite clearly: He didn't do the things he wanted to do but he did do the things he hated. So what was it that he didn't understand? Can you identify with Paul's perplexity? Describe your feelings.
3. What relationship, if any, do you see between Paul's confusion in verse 15 over his actions and the slavery he spoke about in verse 14?
4. In verses 17 to 20 Paul emphasized that the sin he was struggling against was "in him." What did he mean by that? Why did the fact that the sin was "in him" make it so impossible for his conscious mind to deal with it? How could the sin "in him" be doing the sinning and he not be doing it? What practical lesson for everyday Christian living can you draw from this?
5. In verse 22 Paul said that in his inner being he delighted in God's law. What's the significance of the fact that he had this delight in his inner being? What would you call it? How would you define it?
6. Note that both the sin and the delight in God's law dwelt within Paul. How could both be there at the same time?

7. The NIV speaks of the sin dwelling in Paul's sinful nature, which is an interpretation of the Greek word *flesh*. What is this sinful nature or flesh? Do you recognize it in yourself, and if so, how would you describe it?

8. Paul said there was a war going on inside of him between his delight for God's law and the sin that dwelt in him, but he praised God that Jesus had the answer to this problem (verse 25). Describe this answer in terms of your experience.

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Study Guide #17 for Chapter 19 of

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Romans 8:1-4

1. Have you felt under condemnation because of a sin you haven't been able to overcome? How do you feel after reading Romans 8:1, especially in the context of 7:25?

2. Explain what it means to you to be "in Christ Jesus." How does this relate to the sins you still struggle with?

3. Explain the difference between condemnation and conviction. Is there a difference between condemnation and guilt? Is either one appropriate for a Christian to experience?

4. *Should* a true Christian ever feel condemned? *Will* a true Christian ever feel condemned? If your answer to that last question is Yes, under what circumstances will it happen? What's the right way to deal with it?

5. What is the "law of sin and death" in Romans 8:2? How does "the law of the Spirit of life" set you free from that? Is that freedom permanent? Whether your answer is Yes or No, explain what you mean.

6. What is the relationship between justification and the "law of the Spirit of life"? What is the relationship between sanctification and the "law of the Spirit of life"?

7. In verse 3 Paul said that Christ came "in the likeness of sinful man." How did Christ's coming in human nature make it possible for you to overcome your sins?

8. Why is the law powerless to give you the victory over your temptations? How did Christ's death on the cross make it possible for you to overcome them?

9. Would you say that verse 4 is speaking primarily about justification or sanctification? Why?

10. Obviously, people who live according to the sinful nature will sin. How about those who live according to the Spirit? If those who live according to the Spirit do sin, what'

the difference between their sin and the sin of those who live according to the sinful nature?

11. Verse 4 suggests that it's possible for Christians to totally overcome all sin. Do you agree? Why?

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Study Guide #18 for Chapter 20 of

Forever His

Romans 8:5-11

1. Make a list of some of the things your sinful nature desires. Then make a list of things the Spirit desires that, wherever possible, is the alternate good of the things your sinful nature desires. What can you do to maximize the Spirit's desires in your mind and minimize—and eventually eliminate—the things your sinful nature desires?

2. How can you know what the Spirit desires? What is the relationship between the Bible and the Spirit's influence on your mind and heart? Which is more important?

3. When you yield to temptation, are you living according to what the Spirit desires or according to what your sinful nature desires? When this happens, are you saved or lost? Under what circumstances would you say "saved" and under what circumstances would you say "lost"?

4. What is the meaning of the words *life* and *death* in verse 6? Which one are you experiencing at the present time? What reason can you give for your answer?

5. Write a paragraph explaining why, in spite of his frustration over his moral failures, the man of Romans 7 can be at peace. Include your advice to him on how he can obtain that peace. Then apply your advice to your own life.

6. Is all sin a manifestation of hostility to God's law, or is it possible to sin yet not be hostile to God's law?

7. How can you be sure that the Spirit of God lives in you?

8. What did Paul mean in verse 10 when he said that the "body is dead because of sin"? What is that death and how does sin cause it? What is the "spirit" in this verse? How is it alive "because of righteousness"?

9. What is the "life" in verse 11 that God gives to the mortal bodies of those who have the Spirit?

10. Summarize in your own words the solution that Romans 8:1-11 provides for the frustration of the man of Romans 7:14-25. Explain the role of justification, sanctification, and conversion in that solution.

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Study Guide #19 for Chapter 21 of

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Romans 8:12-16

1. How can you know that the Holy Spirit is "living in you," as Paul put it in verse 11?
2. In verse 12 Paul said that if we have the Spirit dwelling in us, we are obligated—but not to our sinful nature (flesh). How would you define this sinful nature in terms of your experience? What are some its aspects or qualities in your life?
3. In verse 13 Paul said that "if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die." What is this death? If you yield to temptation, are you living according to your sinful nature? And if so, are you therefore subject to this death?
4. What is the "life" that we receive when by the Spirit we put to death "the misdeeds of the body" (verse 13)?
5. Do we experience the death in verse 13 every time we yield to temptation and the life in verse 13 with every victory? If your answer is Yes, what does that suggest about the nature of this death and life? What does it suggest if your answer is No? Which do you think is correct, and why?
6. In verse 14 Paul said that "those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons [and daughters] of God." Chapter 8 describes what it means to be led by the Spirit of God. Review the chapter and make a numbered list (1, 2, 3) of the qualities of God's sons and daughters.
7. Read verses 15 and 16 carefully What gives you the right to address God as "Abba"—Father, or Daddy? To what extent is that right dependent on your justification, on your sanctification, and on your conversion?
8. What is the fear that Paul spoke about in verse 15? What does it mean to be a slave to this fear?
9. In verse 16 Paul said that "the Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." What is your "spirit"? What does it mean for God's Spirit to testify with your spirit that you are God's son or daughter? How can you know that God's Spirit is testifying with you that way?

Study Guide #20 for Chapters 22 and 23 of

Forever His

Romans 8:17-39

1. Identify some of the ways you have suffered in your life. Has any of this suffering helped you to understand that you are a son or daughter of God, and if so, how? Has it in any way hindered you from that awareness, and if so, how? Have you transitioned from one perspective to the other, and if so, how did it happen?
2. Read verses 19 to 22. What is the difference between the biblical view of suffering and the evolutionary view? What other differences between the biblical and evolutionary views can you identify in these verses?
3. In verses 24 and 25 Paul spoke about hope. Have you ever felt your hope of eternal life tested? What caused you to question or doubt? How did you handle it? How do you feel now about your right to eternal life? In what ways has reading *Forever His* made a difference in your hope?
4. How many promises can you identify in verses 26 and 27? Explain what these promises mean to you in terms of your struggle with temptation.
5. Read verse 28. How has your suffering worked for your good? How have your moral failures worked for your good?
6. Read verses 33 and 34. Have you ever felt that a charge was being brought against you because of your moral failures? If so, who was bringing the charge? What was your response? What was Paul's response in these verses?
7. Read verses 31 to 36, then write a paragraph describing the biblical attitude toward moral failure. Can your moral failures ever separate you from Christ's love? Is it possible for these failures, under any circumstances, to separate you from your relationship with Jesus? Whether your answer is Yes or No, explain why.
8. Do you feel like "more than a conqueror" over your temptations? If your answer is No, should you, and how can you?
9. What hope do you find in verses 38 and 39?
10. How do we experience God's love through Jesus?