

THE INTERNAL WAR

Romans 7:1-6 A New Marriage

In our old life we were dominated by the flesh, the law, sin and death. In our new life, having been released from sin and the law, we are slaves of God through the power of the Spirit.

Romans 7:7-13 The Powerless Law

Relationship between law and sin: The law reveals sin (v7), the law provokes sin (v8), the law condemns sin (v9-11).

Romans 7:14-25 The Internal War

Sarx (Romans 7:18, 25): skin, body, being, sinful nature

“The war before you meet Christ is a war you cannot win. The war after you meet Christ you cannot lose.” — Tim Keller

The Way	Source	Fruit	Path	Relies upon	Ultimate end
<u>Below</u>	Devil	Control	<u>Through strength</u>	Following rules	Death
<u>Above</u>	God	Love	<u>Through weakness</u>	Christ	Life

Three Practices Leading Us Away From the Way Below to the Way Above

1. A New Song

“I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.” — Exodus 15:1

2. A New Word

“When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.” — Exodus 31:18

3. A New Meal

“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” — John 6:35

Discussion Questions:

- In which ways you do notice your flesh (*sarx*) pushing you toward something you wouldn't necessarily choose?
- Compare/contrast the way below and the way above in your own life. Which path do you think is most reflective of your life? Why?
- Three practices leading us toward the way above were mentioned in the sermon, what are some other things in your life that push away toward the way above?

Christmas Eve Sunday gatherings Sunday, December 24th, 10 am or 5pm

We will enjoy the blessing of Christ's birth together. Children's Ministry is available for Nursery—Kindergarten as we worship as a church family.

