

# THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

<sup>13</sup> "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. <sup>14</sup> BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT.  
MATTHEW 7:13-14

**es-sen-tials** (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

## *The Letter of the Apostle Paul to the Romans*

*A BIBLE STUDY*

SESSION EIGHT

*Romans 6:15-7:25*

*Questions for Session Eight*

1. We just read about offering the parts of our bodies to sin vs. offering our bodies to God. Who is your master? To what in this world have we offered ourselves and our lives? Bonus: Since we have grace why can we not do whatever we want?
  
2. In looking at slavery in a broad sense, to what have we become slaves in this world? Where does this behavior lead us? As we search our hearts how can we become slaves to righteousness instead of becoming slaves to wickedness? What is the main ingredient for this kind of about face in our lives?

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3. Why did Paul write and teach this lesson in human terms? In v. 19 we read that righteousness leads to *something*? What does it lead to, and how do we benefit from this? What should the end result be?
4. What illustration did Paul use to teach us about the authority of the law in our lives? How long does the law have its grip on us? Explain living by the law vs. living by the Spirit. Which one has the capability of bearing fruit to God?
5. Compare from the reading in vv. 7-8 the difference between *what the law is* and *what the law does*. Explain the following from v. 8. "... For apart from the law, sin is dead." What was the intent of the law, and what was the real outcome. (v. 10) What does sin produce in us?
6. In v. 14 Paul explains his sinful life in a metaphor. How would you explain this metaphor to others? Does Paul blame himself for his evil doings, or does he blame something else? (v. 20)

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7. To what is Paul referring in vv. 21-23? Are there two laws Paul is attempting to obey? If so, what are the two laws, and how do you explain each one? Are we still susceptible here in the twenty-first century?

8. What is Paul looking for in v. 24? How does he plan on escaping his “body of death?” To what laws does Paul claim to be a slave in v. 25b? Explain how this could be.

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