

## Newsletter

### WHEN I AM MY WORST ENEMY Romans 7 & 8

I have an enemy; his name is Satan, Lucifer, Beelzebub, the Devil, etc. But I have another enemy who can be just as dangerous. That enemy is me. I am the one who often destroys the work God is attempting to do in me and through me.



Paul argues with himself, "I do not understand what I do; for I don't do what I would like to do, but instead I do what I hate" (Romans 7:15 GNT). If you're honest, you'll agree with that statement.

It's difficult to pin point which of my behaviors that cause me the most problems, but I'll list a few here. I think they're common to most of us.

It's amazing how many people or groups who claim to have the answers: the media, entertainment (Hollywood), self-help books, etc. But the real answers are found in a person—Jesus. In Romans 7-8, we find seven habits that will help set us free from these self-destructive tendencies.

#### 1. Consider what Jesus has done for us and learn to find rest in His righteousness.

Many of us are saved, but we don't act like it. Instead, we're filled with shame, uncontrolled thoughts, and compulsions. We're not living like we're truly set free.

Romans 8:1 tells us, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (NIV).

Continued on page 2.

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#### **NEWSLETTER**

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**VBS JULY 17**, 20,21,22,23

#### Continued from Page 1

We are freed from the judgment of God when we believe in His Son. We have a nature that will encourage us to continue to sin, but we have a new strength, His Holy Spirit, to provide power to overcome sin. Jesus took our judgment for us. You don't have to suffer under guilt any longer. Jesus paid for our guilt also.

#### 2. Change your way of thinking with the applied power of God's Holy Spirit.

God will answer this prayer. He wants to give you better thoughts. Paul writes in Romans 8:5 "Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires" (NIV).

Each of us has a battle taking place within us. We have the old nature which fights against the new nature. We must make a choice of will to pursue the will of the new nature. If you are truly born again, the sin once enjoyed will lose its appeal grow in our relationship with Him.

#### 3. His Holy Spirit will give you the strength to say no to sin.

Before you became a believer, all you had was willpower. But willpower wears out. Now you have something that doesn't—the Holy Spirit. We need to learn how to tap into his power. Galatians 5:16 says, "Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves." When you let the Holy Spirit guide your life, you won't live by your sinful nature. You'll still have the same temptations, urges, and compulsions, but you'll have the power to say no to them.

## 4. We no longer have to submit to the culture of fear that is so dominant in our culture today.

When we recognize that we have a heavenly Father who is stronger than anything that threatens us, it challenges our fears. Romans 8:15-16 tells us, "So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father.' For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children" (NLT).

When I was a child, I was often afraid of the dark. At night, I would sometimes call out to my mom and dad in the next room. When they asked what I needed, I would respond, "Nothing, I just wanted to know you were there." It's comforting to know that we have an ever-present Father.

## 5. Our lives should be viewed in terms of eternity instead of our present concerns.

The Bible describes long-term thinking like this: "And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later" (Romans 8:17 -18 NLT).

The Christian life lived here on earth is just a few decades, approximately eight decades. But we will have eternity with Jesus if we commit our lives to Him. Whatever length of time we may suffer hardship, in but a second compared to eternity worshiping Him.

#### 6. We serve a good God who always acts in our own best interests.

The pain and suffering around us is part of living in a broken world. Paul describes this brokenness in *Romans 8:20 "For creation was condemned to lose its purpose" (GNT).* That brokenness, the Bible says, leads to pain in our lives. But Romans 8 also tells us four important truths to remember as we experience pain.

The Holy Spirit is praying for us (Romans 8:26-27). God will use our pain for his good (Romans 8:28). God wants us to succeed (Romans 8:31). God will give us what we need (Romans 8:31-32).

#### 7. The Love of God has no limits for His children.

His Love is yours to experience without interruption. Paul writes, "There is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39 GNT). God's love has a grip on us and He will not let go. It is our possession and He will never take it back. He will not give up on us even if we give up on Him. No matter how tough things get, He will lavish His Love upon us. We can depend on that truth.

God has given us everything we need to overcome our self-destructive behaviors. Whatever you're struggling with today, it doesn't have to destroy you. Let God strengthen you through these scriptural reminders.

Pastor Bob

7/1



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#### **VACATION BIBLE** SCHOOL IS COMING!!!!!

#### **DATES: JULY 17, 20-23**

#### SCHEDULE

July 17—6:00-Registration & Ice Cream

July 20—6:00pm to 7;30pm July 21—6:00pm to 7:30pm

July 22—6:00pm to 7:30pm

July 23—10:00am to 11:30am closing and water party

Join us for FUN, FOOD, GAMES, **CRAFTS, BIBLE TIME & MUSIC** 



Mamuel Arellano

Stacie DeBellis 7/2

**Betty Morris** 

7/13 **Doris Berry** 

**Grace Rants** 7/16

Leo Linders 7/24

Wada Belasco 7/26



Pete & Grace

7/4

Smith



Our Women's Breakfast meets on the fourth Saturday of every month at 10:00 am at the Airport Café.

All ladies are welcome and invited to join us.



Our Men's Breakfast meets the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Feedlot Café in Marana. We meet at 8:00am

All men are welcome!!



ttelping boys and girls to know, love and serve Jesus

Our Sandario Baptist AWANA club is on break for the summer. We will resume with registration on Wednesday August 17th, and our first night of AWANA club will be Wednesday, August 31st at 5:45pm

# Christmas in

Please join us on Sunday, July 24th as we celebrate

#### **CHRISTMAS IN JULY!!**

During this annual event we will celebrate with Christmas music, Christmas decorations, and even some Christmas themed snacks.

Please come dressed in some Christmas attire and lets worship together.

Also on this day, we will bring back the Shoeboxes that we have filled to be a part of Operation Christmas Child. See you on the 24th



**MERRY** CHRISTMAS!!

#### PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION





Online Giving is available for all your tithe and giving needs. You may access this by visiting our website **sandariobaptistchurch.com** and clicking on the Give Online Tab.

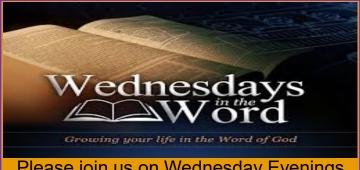
We also now have a tab for you to give online to our building fund.

Just click on the "Building Fund" tab.

We are in need of a drummer and a piano player to play with our Praise Team on Sunday Morning. If you play or if you

know someone who does that might like to join us in worship, please contact Mark soon. We are looking for someone with a heart for worship who could start as soon as possible.

Mark can be reached at sandario.mark@gmail.com



Please join us on Wednesday Evenings for a time in the word.

We will meet every Wednesday, evening for

BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30PM

SHARE & PRAYER @ 7:00PM

Please come and be a part of the exciting things God is doing at Sandario