

## No Condemnation

### Key Scriptures

Rom. 8:1-4 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus,<sup>2</sup> because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

<sup>3</sup> What the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering,

<sup>4</sup> in order that the law's requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love drives out fear, because fear involves punishment. So the one who fears is not complete in love.

Galatians 5:16-18 <sup>16</sup> I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

**Key Point:** Because believers died with Christ, the law has no more power to condemn them *for violation of God's standards.*

## TALK IT OVER

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Think of a time when you felt especially close to God—what was He doing in your life? Think of a time you felt distant to him—what caused the distance?

**Start thinking.** Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- How does 1 John 4:18 interact with Romans 8:1 in how a believer relates (or should relate) to God?
- There are three ways to understand the term “Law” in verse 2. Which of these do you think Paul is using and why? How does it explain what Paul is trying to teach us?
  1. God's law or standards
  2. A general principle
  3. A force or power
- In what ways does knowing that Jesus' ministry was to make you holy, motivate you to live differently today?
- In what way did Jesus' coming condemn “sin in the flesh”? (see also 2 Cor 5:21)

**Start sharing.** Choose a question to create openness.

- What do you think we are being taught in Galatians 5:16-18 when it says “walk in the Spirit?”
- Do you ever feel under condemnation? What causes you to feel this way? How can you remember “there is now no condemnation” next time?

**Start doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- How can you implement “no condemnation” thinking in your understanding of your relationship with God this week?

**Prayer Requests.** It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

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