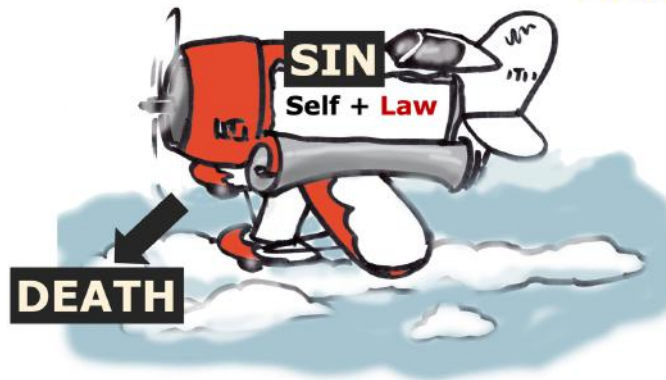


Growing into our Freedom in Christ

Change of Behavior → Change of Outcome

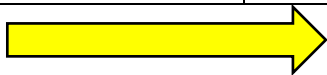
Change in me → Being closer to God

Romans 7



2 ways to live

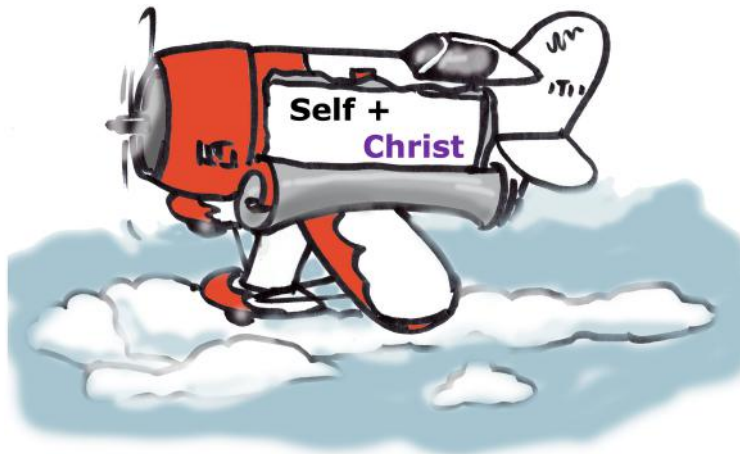
Old way of the Law	New way of the Spirit
Self + Law	Self + Christ (and Spirit)
Good comes to us when we do good	No condemnation. Ever!
But sin uses the Law to pull us into sin	Transformation comes by the Spirit in us
Sin uses the Law to kill us	
I am a slave to sin!	



Through Jesus' death, we move from Law to Spirit

Romans 8:1-4

Romans 12:1-2



The Big Idea

Being good enough will never **be enough**

- Self + Law = death [sin]
- Even for Christians

Rather:

- Self + Christ = Life in God
which enables the work of transformation

What are we to do?

Gain new life in Christ

Through faith in Jesus we die to the Law so that we belong to Christ
We are released from the Law to serve in the new way of the Spirit
No condemnation...ever!

In Christ's mercy, be transformed

Self + Christ

Pump the Spirit's presence and power through all our being
BECAUSE we have life in Christ

The new way of the Spirit

Being in Christ → **Loved forever, and
Transforming work of the Spirit** in us

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. For Paul, it seems that coveting was a place of greater struggle with sin. Where is sin more powerful for you? Which commands of God are harder for you to follow?
2. What does "Self + Law" look like in your life?
What changes in yourself do you hope will help?
3. Read Romans 8:1-4 again. What relief and joy does this bring?
4. Read Romans 12:1-2 again. What does it look like to pursue transformation, not as a means to bring God's blessing, but rather as a way to bring the presence and power of the Spirit father into your whole being? How does this bring both contentment and determination to change?

Conversation starters this week

What are the good ways to live that you want to be true in you?

How is that journey going?