

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. How many times have you messed up? Share every mistake you've ever made in your life with your group. You have 60 seconds.

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Pastor Ruben talked about the 613 Laws last weekend at church. This covers from Genesis to Deuteronomy. This also includes the 10 Commandments. The first five books of the bible are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. These five books are known as, "The Torah", which in English means, "The Law". The 613 Laws can be broken up by 248 positive Commandments ("the Do's"); and 365 negative ones ("the Don'ts"). Can you think of any of the 613 Laws?
3. What is the purpose of the law? What did God want to show Israel?
4. According to James 2:10, who is guilty of breaking God's laws?
5. The prophets made it clear that God was going to do a new thing. Read the following scriptures:
 - a. Ezekiel 36:22-28 (What is Ezekiel saying?)
 - b. Jeremiah 31:31-34 (What is Jeremiah saying?)
 - c. Isaiah 9:6-7 (What is Isaiah saying?).
6. Let's turn to the New Testament now...What does John 1:17 tell us?

Who represents the new covenant?

7. According to Matthew 5:17-22, what is the purpose of Jesus?
 - a. What did Jesus say about the law?
 - b. Compare with Matthew 15:1-20.
8. According to Matthew 22:34-40, which law is most important?
9. Based on Romans 3:20 and Romans 7:1-13, what is the purpose of the law, and how does it affect us today?
10. According to Galatians 3:10-24; and Galatians 4:4-5, how are we justified before God?
Compare with Romans 10:4.
11. Now compare with quote from Andy Stanley, "Christianity is based on the premise that God laid aside fairness and opted for mercy and grace instead."

Application

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- God's law became our tutor so we understand the gap between our "best effort" and the righteousness of God.
- It's God's desire to forgive. God couldn't leave us in the condition that we put ourselves in.
- God is full of unfailing love. He's a compassionate God.
- God's mercies never fail. He rescued us.
- "To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." - CS Lewis