

Battlegrounds

Small Group Questions: The Inner Battle

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Read

Romans 7:7-13; Romans 7:15-25; Galatians 5:17; Romans 8:1-4, 31; 2 Corinthians 4:16

Reflect

The inner battle between two selves impacts every one of us. In Romans 7, the apostle Paul reveals his struggle between his sinful nature and his sincere desire to live a holy and righteous life. Think of specific areas in your life that come to mind as you read Paul's statement: "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do."

Pastor Josh Surratt highlights three insights to help us reconcile our inner battles:

1. There is a battle that you can't win.

- a. In what ways do you feel that the bad parts of yourself are always at war with the good parts?
- b. How do you try to gain God's approval?
- c. What tactics have you used to fight spiritual battles?

2. There is a battle that you can't lose.

- a. Like Paul, we are wretched and need to be rescued. What feelings arise from this statement?
- b. How can we change from living FOR God's approval to living FROM God's approval?
- c. What assurance do we have that we can overcome our battles and walk in freedom? Romans 8:1-4 (NLT)

3. Make sure you're fighting the right one.

- a. How can we feed our spiritual self while starving the things of the flesh?
- b. How can you partner with God to apply the power of the Holy Spirit to your struggles? In what ways can you rest in the assurance of Romans 8:2?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?