

**REVIEW : WEEK 1: EVERYTHING WE NEED FOR A GODLY LIFE (2nd
Peter 1:3)**

**WEEK 2: NOTHING SEPARATES US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD
(Rom 8: 31-39)**

**WEEK 3: THE PROMISE KEEPER: He Saves and Works with the Worst
of Sinners**

MAIN IDEA: *In Jesus we are not just pardoned sinners, we are adopted sons and daughters.*

From "Pardoned" to "Adopted"

The perspective of an Orphan who is pardoned compared to one who is adopted

- **John 1:12 ESV** – *"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."*
- **Romans 8:15 NIV** – *"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'"*
- **Galatians 4:5 NLT** *"God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children."*

Reality 1 - Sin Desires to Enslave (Romans 7:14-20)

Romans 7:14-15, 19-20 NLT *"...The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate...I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway..."*

- Paul himself confesses the inner battle: *"I want to do what is right, but I don't do it."*
- Truth: Sin wants to enslave us.
- Encouragement: Wrestling with sin is evidence of the Spirit's work
- Warning: Don't misuse Paul's words as permission to give up the fight.

Reality 2 - The Holy Spirit has given Freedom and Power (Romans 8:1-2)

Romans 8:1-2 NLT *“So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.”*

- Freedom from condemnation - We are no longer **identified** by our sin, we are identified with **Christ**.
- Freedom from sin through the Power and Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

Reality 3 - God has made a Promise

Philippians 1:6 NLT *“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”*

- His Word - Truth
- His Spirit - Power
- His People - Support

Reflection / Application

- Am I living as a “pardoned criminal” or as an “adopted child of God”?
- When sin wants to ensnare me, how do I rely on the power of the Spirit?
- Is the identity of my sin more important than my identity in Christ?
- Who is on my team to help me?
- Ask “What is the next right step of growth?”

Small Group Questions – The Promise Keeper

1. Identity Shift
 - What difference do you see between being pardoned like a criminal and being adopted as God’s child? How does this shape the way you see yourself day to day?
2. The Struggle with Sin
 - Paul admits, “I want to do what is right, but I don’t do it” (Romans 7:15). How have you experienced this inner battle, and how does knowing you’re adopted into God’s family change the way you fight sin?
3. The Spirit’s Power
 - Romans 8:1–2 says the Spirit sets us free from sin’s power. In practical terms, what does it look like to rely on the Holy Spirit instead of willpower when you’re tempted?
4. The Promise of Growth
 - Philippians 1:6 reminds us God will finish the work He started in us. Where do you see evidence of God’s ongoing work in your life, and what’s one “next right step” He may be calling you to take?



NEXT STEPS



APP



OVERTIME PODCAST