Sermon Supplement from March 23

"Responding to God's Rules" – Romans 7:1-12

WARM UP

- Do you tend to be more of a rule-keeper or a rule-breaker in life? How has that hindered you or gotten you into trouble?
- Relating to God's rules, do you tend to be more of a rule-keeper or a rule-breaker?

DIG IN

- Read all of verses 1-12 and note each time "*law*" or "*commandment*" is used. At first reading, how would you summarize the big idea of this passage?
- What did the Law signify in the Old Testament? How did it help people relate to God?
- In what ways did God's people in the Bible tend to veer into the ditch of religion and rule-keeping? Can you think of places in the Bible where God's people veered into the ditch of rebellion and rule-breaking? In your opinion, what tends to be some of the reasons people veer into these ditches?
- Verses 1-6 specifically address religious people who view rule-keeping as an end in itself. What do these verses have to say to those people?
- What is the solution to religious rule-keeping without veering into the opposite ditch of rebellious rule-breaking? (Focus on verses 4-6).
- Verses 7-12 address the opposite group, the rebellious rule-breakers. What do these verses have to say to those people?
- What is the solution to rebellious rule-breaking without veering into the opposite ditch of religious rule-keeping?
- Explain in your own words why God's rules are an important part of our sanctification (daily progressive growth in holiness).
- In your opinion, what is the proper attitude for a Christian to have toward God's rules?

WRAP UP

- Share some specific ways that what you learned in this study changes the way you think, feel, and/or act?
- Some of us need Release from Religion and others of us need Respect for God's Rules. Which one do you need? (Maybe a little of both?)
- In what specific ways might this teaching on Release from Religion and Respect for Rules help you find freedom in your walk with Christ?

Next Week – A special message from Pastor Loren

(For more resources on Romans, email: steve@puyallupbaptist.org)