An Illustration From Marriage - Romans 7:1-6

Topics: Change, Growth, Holy Spirit, Law, Marriage, New Life

Open It

- 1. What were some of the basic rules of behavior you were taught as a child?
- * 2. How do your present values differ from the ones you were taught as a child?

Explore It

- 3. What illustration did Paul use to explain a Christian's relationship to the written law? (7:1-3)
- 4. Whom does the husband represent in Paul's illustration? (7:2-3)
- 5. Whom does the married woman represent in Paul's illustration? (7:2-3)
- * 6. To what did Paul compare the death of a woman's husband? (7:2-5) Why?
 - 7. What is the purpose or goal of a Christian's new life? (7:4)
 - 8. What changes a person's relationship to the Law? (7:4-6)
- * 9. What are the primary differences between the old life under the Law and the new life in the way of the Spirit? (7:4-6)
 - 10. What controls a person before he or she becomes a Christian? (7:5)
- * 11. How is a person released from being bound by the Law? (7:6)
 - 12. How does the Christian's new life compare with the old life? (7:6)

Get It

- 13. What role should God's written law play in a Christian's life?
- 14. What keeps a Christian from sinning if the penalties of the Law have been forgiven by God?
- 15. How can strict adherence to God's law affect a Christian negatively?
- * 16. What does it mean to be a new person in Christ?
 - 17. How can the Spirit help us please God in a way that following the Law couldn't?
 - 18. How do a person's attitudes and outlook on life change when he or she comes to Christ?
 - 19. How can knowing that God loves you unconditionally change your behavior?
- * 20. What is the difference between keeping religious laws and following the Spirit of Christ?

Apply It

- * 21. What old ideas about pleasing God through religious activity do you need to discard this week?
 - 22. What can you do this week to build your living relationship with Christ instead of merely following the rules?