



Messy Church

A series on 1 Corinthians
Lisvane Baptist Church

Honouring God with our Bodies

Romans 7:15-25 (MSG)

¹⁵ What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. ¹⁶ So if I can't be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes obvious that God's command is necessary.

17 But I need something more! For if I know the law but still can't keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help!

18 I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't do it.

19 I decide to do good, but I don't really do it; I decide not to do bad, but then I do it anyway.

²⁰ My decisions, such as they are, don't result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time.

²¹ It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to do good, sin is there to trip me up.

*22 I truly delight in God's commands,
23 but it's pretty obvious that not all of
me joins in that delight. Parts of me
covertly rebel, and just when I least
expect it, they take charge.*

*24 I've tried everything and nothing helps.
I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one
who can do anything for me? Isn't that
the real question?*

25 The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.

¹² I can do anything I want to if Christ has not said no, but some of these things aren't good for me. Even if I am allowed to do them, I'll refuse to if I think they might get such a grip on me that I can't easily stop when I want to.

13 For instance, take the matter of eating. God has given us an appetite for food and stomachs to digest it. But that doesn't mean we should eat more than we need...

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.

*14 For sin shall not be your master,
because you are not under law, but under
grace.*

