

Ezekiel 36:26 And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

JOEL 2:12 Tear your hearts, not just your clothes and return to the Lord your God.

- 6) God is not looking for improved appearances; He is creating new _____.
- 7) The clearest evidence that God has our heart is not what we profess with our lips, but what He _____ in our lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Why do people naturally gravitate toward external religion rather than heart transformation?



A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Chapter 2:17-29

Religion Without Reality

September 9 and 10, 2026

BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS
THAT
HONOR GOD
and Last a Lifetime

A cord of three strands is
not quickly broken.
ECCLESIASTES 4:12

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS STRONGER CONNECTIONS BUILT TO LAST

SHERIDAN HOUSE
FAMILY MINISTRIES
DOING MARRIAGE GOD'S WAY

DATING & PREMARITAL SEMINARS FOR COUPLES

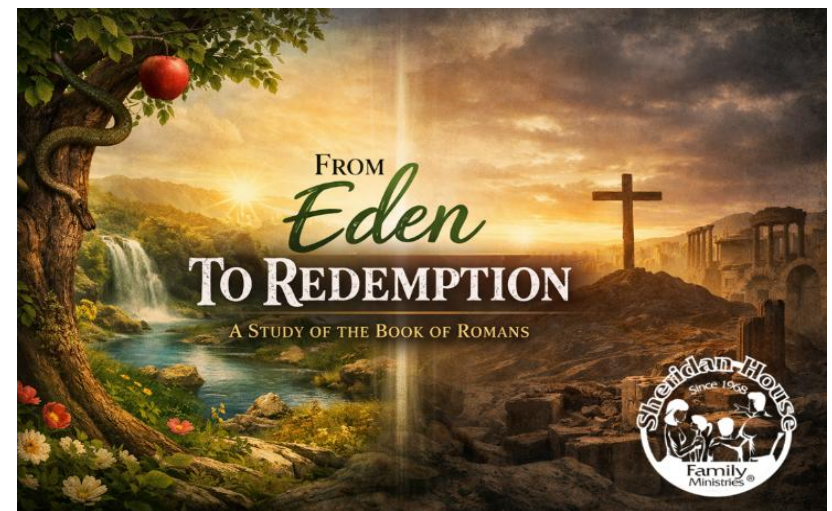
Dates/Times: **October 23rd** (6:30pm-8:30pm)
October 24th (8:30am-11:30am)

The seminar includes
dinner for (2) on Friday evening,
breakfast for (2) on Saturday morning,
and educational materials.
Fee: \$75.00 per couple

Presented by Pastor Mike and Heather Leger
SYMBIS Certified Facilitators

Location: Sheridan House Family Ministries
1700 S. Flamingo Road, Davie, FL 33325
954-583-1552

Register Here



Romans 2:29 But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God. **ESV**

Paul has a very intentional progression in Romans:

- **Romans 1:18-32** – The obvious sinner (the pagan world)
- **Romans 2:1-16** – The moralizer
- **Romans 2:17-29** – Now he's addressing the religious Jew
- **Romans 3:9-20** – Everyone is guilty before God

Romans 2:1 Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. **ESV**

Luke 18:11 “God, I thank you that I am not like other men...”

1) Religious privilege is a terrible substitute for a changed _____.

- a. You can be surrounded by truth and still be _____ from God.

Romans 2:17 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God **18** and know his will and approve what is, because you are instructed from the law; **19** and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, **20** an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth—

2) Knowing the truth is not the same as _____ the truth.

Romans 2:21-24 you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? **22** You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? **23** You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. **24** For, as it is written, “The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.” **ESV**

Malachi 3:8 “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ “In tithes and offerings. **9** You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. **NIV**

3) Knowledge without obedience becomes _____.

4) People often evaluate _____ by watching Christians.

Romans 2:24 No wonder the Scriptures say, “The Gentiles blaspheme the name of God because of you.” **NLT**

a. Most people will never read Romans. But they _____ our lives every day!

b. Outward religion cannot replace inward _____.

Romans 2:25 For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. **26** So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? **27** Then he who is physically uncircumcised but keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law.

5) If your life _____ God's commands, the outward sign of circumcision loses its meaning.

a. The modern parallels for us is Baptism without _____ and a _____.

b. The symbol of baptism is valuable only when it reflects genuine _____!

Romans 2:28 For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. **29** But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God. **ESV**