

**Why Do I Do the Things I Do?
Romans 7:14-8:1**

1. Can you think of an example of a time when you've done the "right" thing for the wrong reason?
2. One of the core tenets of our denomination is the Reformed concept of "Total Depravity" – that, "No part of human life is untouched by sin. Our desires are no longer trustworthy guides to goodness, and what seems natural to us no longer corresponds to God's design." What do you think of that statement? Do you agree? Disagree? Something in between?
3. Think about Jesus's parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25:32-46). If Jesus taught that salvation comes from trusting Him and being "born again," then why are the Sheep and the Goats judged according to their works? Does understanding the relationship between the heart and the flesh contribute toward an explanation of how to reconcile the two ideas?
4. How often do I turn my attention toward evaluating the condition of my own heart? Do I "watch over" it with diligence (Prov. 4:23)? Do I "test myself" to see if I am indeed "in the faith" (2 Cor 13:5)? Why or why not?

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