

Grace Revolution: From Death to Life

Recap:

You want the kind of life that's free from sin and deeply impactful, don't you? Well, Paul's letter to the Romans reveals the key to living in true victory: being united with Christ. The heart of the gospel isn't just about being forgiven; it's about being transformed. In Romans 6, Paul reminds us that grace isn't a free pass to keep sinning - no, it's the power that frees us from sin! When we're baptized into Christ's death, we're not just dunked in water; we're submerged into a whole new reality, one where we share in His resurrection and receive the power of the Holy Spirit to live boldly and freely. It's more than just a change in our behavior, it's a whole new identity, a new life in Him.

But here's the deal: our new relationship with Jesus is an active one. We aren't passive participants in our new grace-empowered life. We've been set free, but we must choose not to let sin reign over us anymore. We are no longer slaves to our old desires or ways of thinking. The old self has been crucified with Christ, once and for all, and we are alive to God, empowered by His Spirit to live righteously. This isn't about trying harder; it's about understanding who we are in Christ. We reckon ourselves dead to sin and alive to God. But don't fool yourself, this is a battle. Our world, our flesh, and the enemy will fight to pull us back into slavery. Yet, as we offer every part of ourselves to God, His power equips us to fight and win. Grace doesn't just forgive; it empowers us to live with eternal impact!

Study: Read Romans 6:1-14 (45 Min)

Icebreaker: What does it mean to be "dead to sin" but "alive to God" in Christ? Can you share a personal example of how this truth has impacted your life?

- 1. In verse 3, Paul refers to baptism as a representation of our union with Christ in His death and resurrection. How does this deepen your understanding of baptism's significance in the Christian faith?
- 2. Have you been baptized? If not, what keeps you from taking that step of obedience in your walk with Jesus?
- 3. Paul emphasizes the reality of our union with Christ. How does understanding that you are "in Christ" change how you view your identity, purpose, and the way you live?
- 4. The world around us celebrates personal desires, even those desires that lead us away from God's will. How do you navigate this cultural pressure? What role does the Holy Spirit play in that process?

5. Paul instructs us in verse 12 to "not let sin reign in your mortal body." What are some specific ways that sin tries to "reign" in your body, and how can you resist its influence?
6. Paul talks about offering ourselves as instruments of righteousness. What are some specific ways you can intentionally offer your body (your actions, words, etc.) as an instrument of righteousness this week?
7. What would it look like for our group to embody the truth that we are "a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints"? How can we create an environment where vulnerability is encouraged?
8. How do you practice the act of confession - both to God and to others? What has been the impact of that in your life?

9. What spiritual practices have helped you experience victory in your daily walk with Jesus? Examples: Prayer, Scripture, Solitude, Fasting, Service, Sabbath, Simplicity, Worship

SUPPORT/PRAYER

(15 min)

This is our final Life Group meeting for this season. Please spend time praying for each other and planning some informal meeting times throughout the summer.