

WHAT'S NEXT: Habits of the Heart

SERMON NOTES

Week 6: June 1, 2014

What does it mean to live by faith in the grace of God?

Romans 6:1–2 (NIV84) ¹ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

WE LIVE WITH A DIFFERENT ORIENTATION: GOD, NOT OURSELVES

We do so fully aware that we are reconciled to God by Christ's work on the cross, not by our own merits.

We do so because we understand that this grace is not without cost: It calls for a new allegiance to God through Jesus

Romans 6:3–10 ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵ If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Romans 6:1-14

Who's Your Daddy

WE EMBRACE OUR NEW IDENTITY IN JESUS

United with Jesus in his death

The old self, held in bondage to Adam's sin, was set free by Jesus

Death has no dominion over him

He died to sin, once for all

We are dead to sin

The old self was crucified with Jesus

We are no longer enslaved to sin, to its controlling influence

United with Jesus in His resurrection

We are alive to God in Christ Jesus

We are raised to walk in newness of life

Romans 6:11–14 (NIV84) ¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 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.

WE ENGAGE IN NEW PATTERNS OF BEHAVIOR

Don't yield in your fight against sin, allowing it to dominate you (Dead to Sin)

Allow this new life to inform your actions (Alive to God)

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WE LIVE WITH A _____

We do so fully aware that we are _____ to God by
_____ on the cross, not by _____.

We do so because we understand that this _____ :
It calls for a _____ to God through Jesus

Romans 6:3–10 ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

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Romans 6:1-14

Who's Your Daddy

WE EMBRACE _____ **IN JESUS**

United with Jesus _____

The old self, held in _____ to Adam's sin, was _____ by Jesus

Death has _____ over him

He died to sin, _____

The _____ with Jesus

We are _____ to sin, to its controlling influence

United with Jesus _____

We are _____ in Christ Jesus

We are _____ in newness of life

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WE ENGAGE _____

Don't yield in your _____, allowing it to dominate you

_____ to inform your actions

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CONNECT GROUPS

WEEK 6: June 1, 2014

Romans 6:1–14 (NIV84)

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OPENING

- What are some guiding principles for your life? Are these principles obvious to those who know you? How have these guiding principles evolved in your life?

GOING DEEPER

- What three statements did Pastor Bruce share as key to living a life of faith in the grace of God? Would you include any others?
- Pastor Bruce suggested that these statements build upon each other? Do you agree?
- As you read Romans 6:1-14, what are some of the points with which the apostle Paul wants his readers to become familiar?
- Our perceived identity can greatly influence our actions. Discuss some ways in which a misplaced identity can unduly influence one's behavior? Have you personally experienced this? How might this play itself out in our culture?

CHALLENGE

- When the topic turns to Christian behavior, it is not unusual for the discussion to revolve around "grace" versus "legalism". Many are quick to affirm "we are forgiven" while others advocate "rules of behavior". What are ways in which "grace" can be misunderstood? What are some ways in which "rules" can be misapplied? How does Romans 6 help you to resolve these tensions?
- In your walk with God, what are some applications you can draw from today's passage that may assist you in your life of faith?