

B. Consider — I must take what I know to be true about what Jesus has done for me and continually believe it, remind myself of it, and think on it. Continually reminding myself of what I know to be true about my identity in Jesus will free me from the power of sin and prevent me from falling into sin.

C. Choose — I must make choices in line with my new identity. I must choose not to let sin reign in my life or put myself in situations where sin tries to regain control of my life. Instead of offering my body to sin, I am to offer my body to God and use my time and energy to honor Him.

Life Group Questions

1. What stood out in this message? What did you learn you didn't know?
2. Read Romans 6:1-14. Paul tells us that because we are so closely identified with Jesus' death and resurrection when we become Christians, the power of sin to make us obey its commands is now broken in our lives. How have you seen victory over sin in your life since becoming a Christian? What difference would it make if you truly believed you were no longer under sin's power and control?
3. Are there sins in your life of which you have grown tolerant? In what areas of life is it hardest to fight sin? How can the truth of this chapter help in your battle with sin?
4. How would you summarize Paul's emphatic rejection that Christians will continue in sin once they know Jesus always forgives their sin?
5. Read Romans 6:11. What do believers need to know to be free from sin? What do believers need to consider to be free from sin? According to the sermon, what is the difference between knowing something and considering it?
6. Read Colossians 3:1-11. Why does this passage say unholy living is improper (and unthinkable) for Christians? How does this passage compare to Romans 6:1-14?
7. If Christians are really dead to sin and alive to God, why do we still struggle with temptation?
8. Read Romans 6:12-13. The earlier portion of this chapter told us we are dead to sin and alive to God, so sin has no power over us. These verses tell us both negative and positive actions we must take to experience victory over sin. What do those negative and positive actions look like in your everyday life?

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Christmas
from the book
of Romans

Romans 6:1-14 – The Gift Of A Changed Life

December 13, 2020

- Justification is being forgiven of my sin and being made right with God positionally.
- Sanctification is breaking free from the power of sin and living right for God practically.

Why shouldn't I increase my sin so God can show more grace for my sin?

Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,... Romans 5:20 (ESV)

Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Hebrews 13:4 (ESV)

Christians should not continue in sin because they are dead to sin.

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Romans 6:1-2 (ESV)

- "Died to sin" means we are no longer under the reign of sin.

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,... Colossians 1:13 (ESV)

How do Christians find victory over sin?

1. Victory over sin begins by knowing my identity in Jesus.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:3-5 (ESV)

Baptism pictures how closely I am identified with Jesus.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19–20 (ESV)

What must happen before someone is baptized?

They need to repent of their sin.

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38 (ESV)

They need to trust in Jesus to pay for their sin.

And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he replied, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” Acts 8:36–37 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me... Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

Jesus’ death to sin killed the power of sin in my life.

We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Romans 6:6–7 (ESV)

Jesus’ resurrection to new life was my resurrection to new life.

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. Romans 6:8–10 (ESV)

No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. 1 John 3:9 (ESV)

2. Victory over sin happens when I consider myself dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus.

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:11 (ESV)

3. Victory over sin happens when I make choices in line with my new identity.

I am to stop making choices that let sin reign in my life.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness,... Romans 6:12–13 (ESV)

I am to pursue choices that lead to honoring God with my life.

...but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. Romans 6:13 (ESV)

For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. Romans 6:14 (ESV)

4. How do I find victory over sin in my life?

A. Know — Know I am so closely identified with Jesus that when I became a Christian, Jesus’ death to sin means the power of sin died in me. Jesus’ resurrection to new life means I am also a new creation no longer under sin’s control. Sin will still harass me and tempt me, but it cannot take control of me and make me obey its demands. I am a new creation through Jesus.