



WEEK 1

STUDY GUIDE

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Monday, August 22, 2022

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Scripture Verse: *“What shall we say, then? shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?” Romans 6:1-3*

Today's Thought:

Sometimes we tend to disregard or neglect God's grace because we haven't done anything about it. It is not a good idea, it is horrible, a strange way to think. It's true that sin used to control our lives before becoming Christians, but now sinful lives ended since we encounter Jesus. Probably, we still do wrong things, but sin has not power on us because God rescued us from it through his Son Jesus Christ. God will not let sin control our lives anymore because we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ.

My brothers and sisters, I must tell you that you have been bought with a great price. In these verses, Paul has emphasized God's grace. His grace must not take lightly because a bloody sacrifice was made to be a beneficiary of it. The precious blood of Jesus Christ was shed for us to benefit from this grace. “For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.” 1 Peter 1:18.

So, we must not take advantage of this grace to live just anyhow and do anything. Through Jesus Christ we are all children of God. We were baptized into Christ, and we have clothed ourselves with Christ. I mean as Christians, God forgave our sins, gave us the Holy Spirit and called us to be his spiritual sons. We are dead to sin, but alive to God because we were baptized in Jesus Christ.

Since we are dead to sin, and alive to God, our way of live had changed, we no longer follow our impulses or the desires of the enemy. We are no longer slaves to sin because we are living according to God's word and makes changes in our lives, and we dedicate ourselves to God until the end.

Lord, thank you so much for your grace towards me. Help me not to take your grace lightly. Help me to constantly realize that the blood of your

Son Jesus Christ was shed on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. In your love, hold me firmly in this grace until the end of my days.

- How do you consider God's grace?
- What was the power of sin in your life before encountering Jesus?
- Why can you consider yourselves dead to sin?
- In what sense are you dead to sin and alive to God?

Further Reading: Galatians 3:26-27

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Scripture Verse: *“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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”*
Romans 6:3-4

Today’s Thought:

We have seen God’s grace versus sin. It is not a good idea to disregard or to neglect God’s grace because we don’t do anything about it. We have seen also; we must not take advantage of this grace to live just anyhow because a bloody sacrifice was made to be a beneficiary of it.

In this study, we will see the word “baptism.” The Greek word for “baptism” is “baptisma” designates the act of immersion, which includes a submersion and an emersion. They are different aspects of baptism in the New Testament. The baptism of John (Luke 1:5-7, 57), the water baptism of Jesus and his disciples (Matthew 3:13-15; Matthew 28:19), the baptism into Jesus Christ and into his death (Romans 6:3-4), the baptism of fire (Matthew 3:11).

So, let’s consider the baptism into Jesus Christ and into his death. In this verse Paul speaks of “baptism into death” means that we are not only dead to our old ways of life, but they are buried in Christ. Jesus bore our sins in his body, he suffered for us so that we might die to sins and live with him and for him. For a Christian, returning to the old way of life is an aberration, is as digging up a corpse. Baptism is introduced here as the sign of our death with Christ. We must know that we are dead, the life of God can be manifested in our body and new fruit will be borne in us for his glory.

Through baptism, our old nature died on the cross of Jesus and now we are alive with Christ in a new life. Now we are in Christ, identified with him in the likeness of his death and his resurrection. So, we should walk in newness of life like Jesus Christ. That is why we can say with confidence: “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” Galatians 2:20. Our whole spirit, soul

and body should be kept blameless. Sin shows up in our life when we don't let God control our old nature. But when God is in control, we will no longer be the instrument that Satan uses to accomplish his desires in our lives. Our spirit, soul, and body will be the instrument of the living God.

For this purpose, we need to remain in Christ, his words and his love so that we can bear many fruits; and his joy will be in us and that our joy will be complete.

Thank you, Lord, because I am a baptized Christian. Through your marvelous power I am transformed from my natural state of sin into a special one in Jesus Christ. This transformation is possible because Jesus Christ your Son has already submitted to the pressure, to the suffering, the pain, the death on the cross for me. Since I am in Christ, identified with Christ help me, every day, to walk in newness of life, and never return to the old way of life.

- What does baptism mean?
- What does "baptism into death" mean in this consideration?
- Why did Jesus Christ bore our sins in his body?
- What is the life of a Christian wanting to return to the old life like?
- What should the baptized Christian know?
- What happens through baptism? And how should we walk?

Further Reading: Ephesians 4: 22-24

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Scripture Verse: *“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness Romans 6:12-13*

Today's Thought:

We have seen the importance of baptism. Through the baptism, our old nature died on the cross of Jesus and we are alive with Christ in a new life. We identified with him in the likeness of his death and his resurrection. Now we will see how important it is to live a godly life after baptism. In these verses, Paul commands us not to play with sin, do not let sin dominate our life. As baptized Christians, we should not let sin take control of our life, stop sinning and obey God's voice. Sin shall not be master over us. We should stop it because sins have a destructive effect in our life and our relationship with God.

How can you stop sins to destroy your life and relationship with God? Fleeing everything that can put temptation in your way. As baptized Christians a social distance should take between you and sin. Never hang out with sin and anything that can cause you to sin. Always remember that your old self was crucified with Christ, and you no longer are slaves to sin because Jesus has set you free.

In the light of all this, consider yourself dead to sin but alive to God in Jesus Christ because the power of sin has been broken in Christ. You have the victory. Since Jesus has given you victory, you have an obligation to seize your victory and daily have responsibility to stop sin to reign as master of your life. Sin is everywhere but the Spirit of God is in you so, exercise your will and your faith to say no to sin and yes to the will of God in your life. Your body, soul and spirit will be an instrument of wickedness if you allow sin to reign in your life.

Brothers and sisters, instead of offering your body, soul and your spirit to sin, give yourself to God. Therefore, acknowledge that Jesus brought you with his blood you must glorify him with your body. “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were

bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies" 1 Corinthians 6:19–20. Temple of God cannot be in a bad condition, it should be swept, vacuum to take off all trash and dirt. Do you not know your bodies are members of Christ himself? Do not let sins alienate you, give yourself to God as a living sacrifice, a fragrant sacrifice, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Father God, Thank you so much for your world today. Help me to live a godly life, to respect the social distance between me and sin. Help me to never hang out with sin and anything that can cause me to sin. Help me to always remember that your Son Jesus brought me with his precious blood, my old self was crucified with Christ, and I am no longer slave to sin.

- How can you stop sins to destroy your life and relationship with God?
- As Christian how should we deal with sin?
- How can you consider yourself compared to sin?
- What do you know about your bodies?
- What steps can you take to make sure that you keep your bodies clean and blameless?

Further Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:15–17

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Scripture Verse: *“Don’t you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey –whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance” Romans 6:16-17*

Today’s Thought:

Previously, we have seen that it is important to live a godly life after baptism. In this study we will see that Christians should offer themselves: body, spirit and soul to God to be used to accomplish his righteous purposes. As slaves of God, they should be available to be used by God for his special purpose.

Before accepted Jesus, we were slaves to sin, we imitated devil, he was our model because we belong to our old father, the devil. But now by accepting Jesus Christ from our heart we become slave of God. We have a new model to imitate, Jesus Christ for in him all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

So, we have been set free from sin; we are now servants of God to live in righteousness. We have a new master; we are free from the old one. We entered into a new relationship with God. What the law could not do, Jesus did it for us. “Know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.” Galatians 2:16

Thus, we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ; our body, spirit and soul belong to God. We should not make ourselves available to sin. Now we are free, we should not abuse this freedom because freedom is never free, it costs something. In our case, Jesus laid down his life to set us free and our life is rooted in the death and the resurrection of Jesus. We are under God’s grace that makes us love him, obey him and want to satisfy him by doing his will. Doing the will of God is true freedom because he created us for this purpose. Since we accept Christ as our

Savior, we become children of God, we need to submit our will under the will of God that is the sign of a true surrender. We become slave of righteousness that means we cannot keep sinning; we need to resist it. "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" James 4:7. We should live a righteous life instead of living a sinful life. To live a righteous life, we need to come near to God by washing in the cleansing blood of Jesus. Living a life of righteousness allows us to flee the consequences of sin.

Heavenly Father, thank you so much for your word. Thank you for what you have done in my life through Jesus Christ. From now on, I am no longer slaves to sin; devil has no power on me. I am a servant of God to live in righteousness. Help me to love you, to obey you, to live for you and submit my will to your will until the end.

- Who was your role model before accepting Christ?
- Since Jesus is your role model now how should you live?
- Where is your life rooted?
- What does "slaves of righteousness" mean for you?

Further Reading: Colossians 2:9-13

Friday, August 26, 2022

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Scripture Verse: *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” Romans 6:23*

Today’s Thought: Earlier, we talked about how Christians should offer themselves: body, spirit and soul to God to be used to accomplish his righteousness purposes. We have seen also as slaves of God; we should be available to be used by God for his special purpose. Now, we will talk about the consequences of sin and the gift of God through Jesus Christ. What does living for sin ever benefit us? What does the gift of God get us?

Mosaic law had no power to make us righteous. Observing the law as the basis of faith for our righteousness before God means nothing, on the contrary it increases our transgression. It cannot result in the problem of sin. Seeing his inefficiency, God has provided his grace in Christ. “Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.” Romans 10:4. Christ is the solution to our sins.

What is sin and what it brings in our life? Sin disobeys God, and breaks the principles established by God. After the creation, God declared everything was good. There was no imperfection, no suffering, no problems until Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Since that time, sin entered and spread in the world. “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.” Romans 5:12. Sin is a virus that attacks our spiritual immune system. Sin can destroy our body, emotions, morals, conscience, desires and if immediate action isn’t taken, it could give birth to physical death. “Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.” James 1:15

Sin brought desolation and led us to shame and death. Unconfessed sins can stifle the work of the Holy Spirit in us, decreasing our interest in the word of God, destroying our joy, peace, our fellowship with God and others, our devotion in prayer. When we sin, we lose our spiritual fitness. Confession is the only way to escape from the wages of sin and to bring us back to God.

God loves us and has a wonderful plan for us. He wants us to experience peace, joy and his special gift which is eternal life. People have tried many other ways, but no one else can procure them eternal life, no one

can fill the gap that exists between themselves and God.

Therefore, brothers and sisters there is only one way to obtain this gift of eternal life: JESUS! "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the grave. He paid the penalty for our sin to fill the gap between us and God. So, it is vital to accept Jesus Christ, confess our sins and be baptized.

Heavenly Father, I pray you would forgive me for my past disobedience and all sins I have never really confessed. In your mercy, take off all desolation and shame that sin brought in my life. Wash and cleanse me, fill my gap with love, peace, joy and turn my heart toward you.

- What is sin?
- How does living for sin ever benefit us?
- What does the gift of God bring us?
- What is the only way to get the gift of eternal life?
- If you were to give a gift to God, what do you think it would be?

Further Reading: Isaiah 53:6, 1 Peter 3:18, 1 Timothy 2:5

NOTES



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