

Know, Consider, Surrender

KEY VERSES

Romans 6:1-14

KEY THEMES

Yielding to the Spirit
Freedom under God's grace
Dead to sin, alive in Christ

TEACHING NOTES

 **God's abundant grace (Romans 5:20-21)**

 **The big question (Romans 6:1)**

 **Know (Romans 6:6-10)**

INTRODUCTION

INNOCENCE

CONSCIENCE

HUMAN GOVT.

PROMISE

LAW

GRACE

 **Consider (Romans 6:11)**

 **Surrender (Romans 6:12-14a)**

 **Live under God's grace (Romans 6:14b)**

Lesson objective:

To see how in Christ we have died to sin, but in Him we also have life

PERSONAL STUDY**Study 1****Prepare your heart and mind**

Begin this time by reading and reflecting on the following verses from Matthew 26.

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. – Matthew 26:26-30 (NIV)

We died to sin

There is a foundational truth laid out in the book of Romans. If you stopped at the end of chapter 5 you would only have a portion of God's plan, not the whole. The truth we are left with at the end of chapter 5 is that where sin increased, grace increased all the more thanks to Christ's sacrifice on the cross. His grace is truly abundant. This amazing truth might lead believers to come to wrong conclusions about sin. It may lead to the conclusion that believers who continue to sin are showing the greatness of God's grace. Romans 6 deals with this problem. In verse 2, it says "We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" The reality is that when we believed, we died to sin with Christ on the cross. The gift of forgiveness cannot be separated from the One who forgives. We are united to Him. In the same way, Romans 6:5 says "we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his." In Christ, we died and we live. This truth must be held alongside the truth that His wonderful gift of grace is sufficient for the entirety of our sin.

Remember, there is a foundational truth being revealed. In Romans 8, we will come to see what it means to live in the Spirit. Now however, we must come to grips with the reality of our death to sin. While we will continue to experience the presence of sin in this life, we are no longer under sin's controlling power. In this life, we identify with Christ's death with the sure hope that one day we will be raised with Him to eternal life with God.

Freedom and life in Christ

One of the difficulties of this life is the struggle to believe what God's Word says about our position in Christ. We look at our circumstances and we don't feel like we are free from the controlling power of sin. Although we believe, we struggle to accept what God says is true of us.

**Read Romans 6:1-14**

Using this passage, describe your position in Christ in your own words.

Romans is an extremely structured argument. It details what God has done in Christ and where we stand, before mentioning anything about how we should live. The way we live as believers is only healthy if it grows out of an understanding of who we are in Christ. Christ must be central. For that reason, the very first instruction on how we should live comes in Romans 6:12. It says, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.” Without the context and the truth about who we are in Christ, Romans 6:12 can easily lead to legalism. Only when we understand our identity in Christ can we grasp how to live in Him. The result of being in Christ is becoming Christ-like.

Prayer time

Give thanks to God for the freedom you have in Christ. Ask Him to help you live out of the truth that you are dead to sin and alive in Christ.

Session 2**New life in Christ**

Being creatures of habit, it can be difficult for us to grasp a new concept and then begin to live differently in light of this new truth. As Paul tries to lay out the details of what happens to us spiritually when we place our faith in what Jesus did for us, it can be easy to just read the words and not see the implication for our lives. So instead of living out this new life in Christ that has been given to us, we often just try to clean up our act and miss out on the power and secure position God has given us.

**Read Romans 6:5-14**

We each go through a process when presented with a new concept. First we have to decide if we really believe what is being said is true or not. When we read God’s Word we can know that all we read is truth. The next step in owning what we read is to **know** or understand the truth. Once we have an accurate understanding of the concept we begin to **consider** it as truth to be applied to our lives. In the case of knowing and applying what God has done for us comes the final step of living it out. Because God has and is doing all the work of life change, our best way to live this out in our lives is to continually **surrender** to what God has told us and follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

As we consider what Paul is saying in this passage, under each topic, list below what you understand.

Know (*What happened to me when I believed in Jesus? What has God done for me through Christ? What does it mean to be free from the power of sin?*)

Consider (*In light of the truths listed above, what are some applications you can make?*)

Surrender (*List some areas where you've struggled to give God control in your life.*)

One of the hardest things about living out our faith is understanding our role and God's role in our spiritual growth. God's power will change us as we daily surrender our lives to what we read in God's Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. God doesn't want us to be confused and will help us understand more and more as we depend, by faith, on what He has done and is doing.

Prayer time

Talk to God about anything you are still struggling to understand. Ask Him to help you see how to walk in the Spirit and not just rely on your own power and determination. Thank Him for giving us our freedom from sin so that we don't have to have our lives dominated by it.

PARENT GUIDE

Read Romans 6:1-14 together.

Parents, in your own words, describe what God has done for us through Jesus' death. Then tell your kids that you'll be doing an activity to help you understand this idea.

Activity**Supplies**

2 small boxes

Wrapping paper

Monopoly "get out of jail free" card

Buy 1 get 1 coupon

Other free gift cards (*make your own if you can't find any*)

Preparation

Wrap the gift cards in one of the small boxes

Wrap the other box with nothing in it

(*You may want to use different paper so you know which one to open first*)

Have your child unwrap the gift box with the gift cards in it.

Explain that although this gift gives you something without spending any of your money, it actually cost someone something. Hold up each card and ask the kids, "who has to pay for the gift?"

Ask your children about a time when they received something for nothing. Ask them, "who had to pay for it even though they didn't?"

Ask your children if they know what God's special gift is.

(*God's special gift is Jesus Christ.*)

Have your child unwrap the gift box with nothing in it.

Explain that God's gift is not like the empty box. It is the gift of Jesus. Although God's gift to us did not cost us anything, it cost God the death of His son Jesus on the cross.

ADDITIONAL STUDY**Read Romans 6:12-18****Observation**

(Who? When? Where? Why? What does it say? What do I notice?)

Interpretation

(What are the key themes or truths? What is the writer's intended meaning? What is the context? What questions do I have?)

Application

(How do I apply it? What does this mean for me?)

