Women's Bible Study — Handout

Lesson 9 | *Romans 6:1-14*

Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

Name:

Date:

PREPARE YOUR HEART

Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom, insight, and understanding as you study this passage. Begin by reading the full text above before working through the questions.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

> ***Romans 6:1-4***
> *What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 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.*

1. In v1 Paul raises an objection in the form of a question that he anticipates some of his readers might have. a) Based on Rom 5:20-22, why might it be logical for them to raise this objection? b) Even though your own gut response to this question might be as insistent as Paul's "By no means!"(v2), have you ever caught yourself excusing some sinful choice or habit because, "after all, God will forgive me for this"??

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

2. Baptism is a visible sign and seal of the union the Holy Spirit brings about between us and Christ when we put our faith in him. That being the case, it becomes evident how vv3-4 are a key biblical text about our union with Christ—how his history becomes ours, and how everything that he is … he is for us. How do you see that union worked out in these verses, and in vv5, 6, & 8? Look especially for the word "with."

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

3. In light of our union with Christ, what do you think it means to die to sin (v2)? Consider Gen 2:17 and Rom 6:23. See also Col 3:3-5, 1 Pet 2:24.

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

4. The end of v4 says that we are united to Christ so that "we too may live a new life." a) What according to 2 Cor 5:17, Gal 2:20, and Eph 4:24 does this new life look like? b) How does this newness of life serve as a theme for this passage, and help us understand where Paul is going in this chapter, after having spent the last three chapters focusing on justification?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

> ***Romans 6:5-7***
> *For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.*

5. a) Do vv4-7 ever say that we've already been *resurrected* with Christ? b) How then do they describe what our life presently looks like, now that we are dead to sin and no longer enslaved to it? c) Do you think this mean we ought to be sinless and perfect? Why or why not??

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

6. How would you describe the "old self" Paul speaks of in v6? See Gal 5:24, Eph 4:22. And what, according to vv6-7, is the purpose of our old self being done away with?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

> ***Romans 6:8-10***
> *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.*

7. V10 says that Jesus died to sin once for all. Since Jesus never sinned, what might it mean that Jesus died to sin? See Rom 5:21, Heb 7:27.

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

8. V9 is an incredible declaration of the indestructibility of our resurrected Jesus. How do you think the reality that Jesus a) can never die again, b) has conquered sin (v10), and c) "lives to God"(v10) should work itself out in how we live our life right now, *since we are united to him*?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

> ***Romans 6:11-14***
> *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 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. 14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.*

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9. a) Up to this point (Rom 6:11) in his letter, Paul has been teaching his readers what is true about sin, justification, faith, union with Christ, and so on. However, here in v11, Paul does something for the first time in this letter (and repeats it again in v12 and v13). i.e., He shifts from teaching basic doctrinal truths to what?? b) Why might it be important to take note that one precedes the other?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

10. Throughout this passage, Paul is equipping us to engage in faith's fight against sin. a) According to vv11-13, what are some of the strategies we can engage in each time we're tempted to sin? b) How might v14 fortify us as we undertake these strategies?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

11. Think about an area in your life where you struggle with ongoing sin. How might you bring to bear what you've learned in this lesson to your battle with this particular sin?

MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

> ***Romans 6:3-4***
> *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.*

12. Let's take one more look at our baptism. As noted earlier, in vv3-4, Paul presents baptism as the sign and seal of our union with Christ. In Acts 2:41-44, Luke shows us that when we are baptized, we're not only united with Christ, but we're also united with whom? How might knowing and embracing this help you to take your ongoing battle with sin to a whole other level??

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MY RESPONSE

LESSON NOTES