

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).



Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Romans: Grace Is Greater

Romans 5-6

Read Romans 5-6. What sticks out to you? What do you learn about God? What did you like about this story? Did you find anything hard to understand or problematic?

What, So What, Now What? While we were still sinners and enemies of God, Christ died for us to reconcile us and give us peace with God. Just as sin and death entered the world through one man (Adam), God's abundant grace and gift of righteousness overflowed through one man, Jesus Christ. Death loses and God's love wins.

- Are you trying to carry your own burdens or earn approval, rather than resting in the truth that Christ loves and justifies you as you are?
- How can we encourage one another during seasons of suffering so that perseverance builds true character and hope?
In what practical ways can you do the right thing for a neighbor this week, even if it requires sacrifice or cost?

- **Pathway of Descent:** Why do we often expect faith to be an upward trajectory of constant success, and how does Paul's teaching on suffering changing into hope adjust our expectations?
- **Who and Whose Are You?** In what subtle ways do cultural pressures or modern "idols" attempt to claim your primary allegiance over Jesus?
- **Instruments of Righteousness:** What does it practically look like in your daily routine to stop offering parts of yourself to sin and instead offer your body and mind as instruments of righteousness to God?

Weekly Practice:

Do the Right Thing: Identify one situation this week where choosing what is right will cost you time, comfort, or pride, and do it as an act of devotion to Jesus.

Anchor in Reconciliation: Meditate on Romans 5:8 & 6:12-13, remembering that you are loved, chosen, and set free to walk in new life.