

# ROMANS 6:12-14

## NO NEUTRAL GROUND

### THE REIGN OF SIN OR THE REIGN OF GRACE (Read Romans 6:12, 14)

- What does Paul mean by “mortal body,” and what does it mean not to let sin “reign” in it?
- Reflect on this: Believers still sin, but they no longer let sin reign. We may adopt some of sin’s suggestions, but we don’t live under its dominion.
- How should our union with Christ shape both our identity and our behavior?
- How does knowing we are not under law but under grace change the way we view temptation, repentance, and obedience?
- In what practical ways does grace empower us not only to be forgiven but to fight sin daily?

### PRESENT YOURSELF TO SIN OR PRESENT YOURSELF TO GOD (Romans 6:13)

- “Members” or “bodies” represents the whole person—mind, eyes, ears, tongue, hands, and feet. What does it look like to present every part of yourself to God?
- Consider these Scriptures:
  - Mind - Romans 12:1-2
  - Eyes - 1 John 2:16
  - Ears - Isaiah 55:1-3; Matthew 11:15
  - Tongue - James 3:5-6
  - Hands - 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12
  - Feet - Romans 10:14-15
- To present yourself to God means to deliberately, consistently, and decisively surrender your whole self to Him.
- Why is this not a command about justification, but deeply connected to sanctification?

### INSTRUMENTS OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS OR INSTRUMENTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Read Romans 6:13)

- The Greek word for “instrument” is better translated as “weapon.” As Christians, we are no longer to present our bodies as weapons used by sin to accomplish evil, but as soldiers in the service of righteousness. You are either a weapon in the hands of sin or in the hands of God—there is no neutral ground.
- Paul gives us imperatives (commands) because of the indicatives (truths). In Christ, we have died to sin and are alive to God (indicative). Therefore, we must present ourselves to God as instruments of righteousness (imperative).
- Consider this: God always tells us who we are before He tells us what to do.
- Why is it vital to understand your identity in Christ before trying to live like Christ, and how does misunderstanding this lead to either legalism or spiritual defeat?