

## To Sin Or Not To Sin...

### The Question:

Romans 6:1 5:20

If God loves **sinners**, why can't I keep **sinning**?

### The Answers:

Romans 6:2-14 Ephesians 4:22 Colossians 3:9 1 John 3:6-9

- ✓ If we **died** to sin, we shouldn't **live** in it any longer.  
Romans 6:2
  
- ✓ We have been **"united"** with Christ, so **"remain"** in him.  
Romans 6:6
  
- ✓ Our **old life** was put to death, so we could live a **new life**.  
Romans 6:6-10
  
- ✓ We were forgiven and freed to live **for God**, not **ourselves**.  
Romans 6:11-14

### Simply Put:

The tragedy is to take our **freedom** and live in **prison**.

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of March 12, 2017

*This week is the final meeting of our Winter Quarter. We'll take a two-week break, then the Spring Quarter begins the week of April 2 and runs through June 6. To wrap up the quarter, we'll spend some time this week looking back at our study in Romans and taking Communion.*

## MY STORY

Chris gave us four answers to why we can't keep on sinning. Which answer caught your attention the most and why?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ROMANS HIGHLIGHTS

This past quarter we've heard and discussed some incredible messages in our Romans series. Take a moment to think back on what you've learned, marked in your Bible or written in your notes about the themes we've covered (some are below) and jot down any highlights that stood out to you in our study of Romans so far.

### **Some Quotes and Verse Highlights so far:**

*The wrath of God is being held back! Romans 1*

*This isn't a list to show us why EVERYONE ELSE needs Jesus.*

*It's meant to show us why WE need Jesus. Romans 1*

*The Best Worst News Ever! Romans 2*

*Belief in God and biblical knowledge don't make us right with God. Romans 2*

*But NOW...! Romans 3*

*It's not that I have done wrong, it's that I am wrong. Romans 3*

*Some things are true but incomprehensible. Romans 3*

*Works is about earning and deserving. Grace is about believing and receiving. Romans 4*

*Faith is not ignoring the facts, but trusting God in spite of the facts. Romans 4*

*Suffering - If you can, run from it. If you can't, embrace it!*

*Suffering produces character. Romans 5*

*"How much MORE ..!" Romans 5*

*Jesus gave his life for me, to take my life from me, so he could live his life through me. Romans 5*

## DIGGING DEEPER

This week we heard about the dilemma we can all fall into – “To sin or not to sin.” The Bible gives us a number of reasons why our new lifestyle of “no longer following my own way” is the best thing for us. What motivations do the following verses give to not make God's grace “cheap” but to follow him as he calls us?

### **Psalm 119:1-2** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,  
who walk according to the law of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Blessed are those who keep his statutes  
and seek him with all their heart—

### **Galatians 6:7-8** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <sup>8</sup> Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

### **Philippians 1:6** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

**Hebrews 12:7-11** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? <sup>8</sup> If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. <sup>9</sup> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! <sup>10</sup> They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

**2 Corinthians 5:10** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Which of these do you find most motivating to you? Which is least motivating?

## REMEMBERING

Our Romans series this past quarter has clearly shown us God's amazing love for us no matter how sinful we are. He loved us so much that he gave us his son Jesus to die in our place, that we might have life. Communion reminds us of all that Jesus accomplished through his death on the cross and his resurrection. It is through this sacrifice that Jesus' grace and mercy are made available to us.

This week your Growth Group will conclude by doing as the disciples did and taking Communion together. To prepare for this time, go back and read what you wrote in the Romans' review question above and write down what you are thankful for.

To prepare for Communion, read the following verses and reflect on Jesus' commitment and work in your life as you follow him.

**1 Peter 2:22-25** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup> When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." <sup>25</sup> For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

**Romans 5:7-11** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to

him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Praise/Prayer Requests:**

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