

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Romans 5:20-6:23. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? Why?
2. Read back over Rom 5:18-19. List all the things Jesus “un-does” for us that Adam did? What does that tell you about the nature of being declared righteous/right with/justified in God’s sight?
3. Why do you think Paul refers to Baptism in verse 3? In your own words, what is Paul saying in these verses? How does that provide strength or encouragement for you? What are some results of believers being united to Christ’s death & resurrection?
4. Why do you think the “old self” has to die for us to be un-enslaved from sin? Verse 9 reminds of what “we know”. Why is it important for us to know that Christ was raised?
5. What does Paul mean by telling us to ‘consider yourselves dead to the power of sin & alive to God in Christ Jesus’ (v11)
6. In verses 12-13, Paul gives 2 negative commands – behaviors to avoid. What are they? Are these 2 separate areas of sin, or 2 different ways of talking about all sin? What are the implications?
7. Now that Christ has freed us from sin’s power, we are to offer ourselves as slaves to living righteously (in accord with God’s word & will). How does Paul outline that process? How does being a slave to living righteously lead to becoming holy (sanctification)?
8. What are some of the fruits that come from being enslaved to sin? What fruit do we get when we become enslaved to God through Jesus Christ? How does each sort of “fruit” impact the world?
9. Verse 23 is meant as a summary of the whole chapter. Do you think it does a good job? Why or why not?
10. How would you summarize what Paul has said so far through these first 6 chapters of Romans? That is a good way to briefly explain or explore the gospel with someone who doesn’t yet believe.
11. What does this text call you to do?

Living Water Fellowship

4th Sunday in Pentecost – 3rd July 2022

COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION STAR OF THE MORNING

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

SONG: How Shall I Call You (AT 43)

BIBLE READING: Romans 5:20-6:23

²⁰ God’s law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more & more, God’s wonderful grace became more abundant. ²¹ So just as sin ruled over all people & brought them to death, now God’s wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God & resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

⁶ Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more & more of his wonderful grace? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ For we died & were buried with Christ by baptism. Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was.

⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ Since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, & he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin & alive to God through Christ Jesus.

¹² Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. ¹³ Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. ¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God’s grace.

¹⁵ Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! ¹⁶ Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living. ¹⁷ Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. ¹⁸ Now you are free from your slavery to sin, & you have become slaves to righteous living.

¹⁹ Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity & lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.

²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right. ²¹ And what was the result? You are now ashamed of the things you used to do, things that end in eternal doom. ²² But now you are free from the power of sin & have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness & result in eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE MESSAGE: *OPERATION GOSPEL: GOSPEL FREEDOM*
 WITH SPECIAL GUEST REV RACHEL DUNWELL FROM DESTINY RESCUE

OFFERING SONG: I am Carried (P&W 835)

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: VIDEO – *LIVING HOPE* (Phil Wickham)-CCL Licence 384660

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

***(Name), † child of God, you are free in Christ!
Amen.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Grace (City Alight)

SHOW HIS LOVE