

ULC Sermon Study Resource

Romans // Death to Life

Pastor Marcus

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Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What dog breed would you be?

Reading: Romans 6:1-14

Outline:

- I. Live in Your Present Reality... (Romans 6:1-4)
 - A. Paul explains that while we are saved from sin and from the consequences of the law, that does not mean we should continue living in sin.
 - B. When we treat grace like a transaction that excuses sin, we deny the new reality and cheapen grace.
Q: Recap: How does continuing to live in sin cheapen grace and Christ's sacrifice?
- II. ...in Light of Your Future Reality... (Romans 6:5-8)
 - A. Through the gift of grace given through Christ's sacrifice, we are joined to his death in baptism. This means we are also joined in Christ's resurrection.
 - B. By being joined to Christ's resurrection, we have something to set our hope in for the future: being resurrected with Him. Jesus is God's vision of the good life we should be living and orienting ourselves towards.
Q: What are some examples of ways you (could) live your life oriented towards Jesus?
- III. ...by Throwing off Sin (Romans 6:12-14)
 - A. Because we are joined to Christ's death and are also given hope of our future resurrections, Paul calls for us to live as though we are dead to sin.
 - B. We are given a new reality in Jesus that is far better than our previous realities in sin. If we are going to suffer, it is far better to suffer for Jesus than anything else, and we just have to "take the leap" and try it.
Q: When have there been moments where you have "taken the leap" to live in the reality Jesus offers us?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) What can make it difficult to live in the light of the future resurrection Jesus offers us?
- 2) How can being dead to sin change your outlook on life?
- 3) Do you find it hard to accept the reality that you are dead to sin?
- 4) In what areas of your life (if any) do you find yourself cheapening the grace God offers us?
- 5) How does accepting the new reality Jesus creates for us change how you might view the world?

Suggestions for further study:

- Galatians 5: 13-26 Q: How do the fruits of the Spirit and living free relate to the new reality Christ's death and resurrection gives us?
- Hebrews 8:7-13 Q: How does this passage relate to our understanding of the law in Romans so far?

Closing Prayer:

Father God, thank you for freeing us from the demands of the law and for providing us hope for the future in Christ. Help remind us that because we are dead to sin, we must no longer continue to live in sin. Thank you for the justifying power of your Son's death, and please continue your work in us to become more like Christ and abandon the sin in our lives. Amen.