

Dead to Sin Alive to God

Romans 6:1-14

Read Romans 6:1-14.

1. How does Paul answer his own question, "Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?" What reason does he give for answering this way? Is Paul emphatic in his response? What is the significance of that?
2. What does it mean that we have "died to sin?"
3. What does the word "baptized" mean in verse 3? Is this referring to water baptism? What is Paul trying to picture here? Read 1 Corinthians 10:2, Galatians 3:27, 1 Peter 3:21, and 1 John 1:3 for more passages which make this analogy.

4. Romans 6:3-7 describes literally what water baptism figuratively describes. Water baptism is a symbol of what has happened on the inside. How does understanding this truth refute the idea that water baptism saves people?

5. Verses 4-6 show that because Christians have been "immersed" into Christ-that is they have identified themselves with Him-His life is their life. When He died, they died to their sins. When He rose, it was so that "we too might walk in newness of life." Do you view your life in terms of its identification with Christ's life? If you considered this truth more often, how might it affect your life?

6. If you have "died with Christ" you have been "freed from sin." What does it mean to be freed from sin? How do you explain the fact that you still sin? Explain how the meaning of the verse would be changed if it said freed from "sins" instead of "sin."

7. Paul exhorts the Romans in verse 11 to "consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus." The word "consider" means to reckon or to count. It is to have confidence in what you know is true so that it affects your life. How can you develop confidence in your position in Christ to the point that it will affect your practice?

