

4. Read Romans 12. List some of the ways Paul illustrates what it means to offer ourselves to God.

Gospel Resilience (A Series on Romans 5 – 8)

“Why Sinning Doesn’t Make Sense for Christians”

Romans 6:1-23

The Prodigal Son Revisited

Faith that is resilient is _____ in the gospel, which is the whole story of how God rescues and restores us and the entire creation through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

5. How can we keep the idea that “sin leads to death” fresh in our minds?

Why Sinning Doesn’t Make Sense for Christians

Warning: You will not overcome sin by reason _____.

Yes, _____ is part of the picture, but so are milestones in our lives like baptism and practices like Bible reflection. Corporate worship, face-to-face community, and personal spiritual disciplines are part of the answer to sin in our lives. And in some cases we are helped in the battle against sin by counseling or treatment or exercise or owning a pet or even medication.

6. What does it mean to invest yourself in the life you have in Christ?

1. We are no longer _____ to sin; we are now united to Christ. (Romans 6:1-5)

The Bible speaks more about us being “_____ Christ” than it does about Christ being in us.

To be “in Christ” means _____ in him and dead to sin.

“Living in accordance with a change of status requires that you recognize it and take steps to bring your actual life into line with the person you have become. When someone gets married, they may well not feel very different, but changes occurred to which they must now conform. Promises have been made; those promises can be broken, but they can't be unmade.” (N.T. Wright)

2. Sin has _____ the power it once had over us. (Romans 6:6-14)

“Offer yourselves” and “offer every part of yourself” also means that fighting sin isn’t just about reasoning; it’s about _____ and immersion in a life devoted to God and his kingdom, together with God’s family.

3. We have a new _____. (Romans 6:15-20)

Romans 6: 17you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.

4. Sin leads to _____. (Romans 6:21-23)

If the _____ in our story came to see his renewed life as boring and unnecessarily restrictive, it means he really never did get it. And that means he probably never invested himself in his new work, his new community, and his family.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week’s sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Romans 6:1-23. Although Paul’s primary purpose is to show that sinning doesn’t make sense for God’s people (appealing to our reasoning and our identity), how does this passage repeatedly demonstrate that we will not overcome sin by reason alone?
3. Go back over the passage and note all the times Paul talks about being “in,” “into,” and “with.” How is your understanding of our status with God deepened when you consider that it’s more than Christ in us.