



SERMON SUMMARY

Romans 6 confronts one of the most critical questions in Christian faith: Does grace give us permission to keep sinning? The message draws us deep into understanding that the gospel is not merely good advice we can choose to follow, but good news about something that has already happened. We discover that when we were baptized into Christ, something profound occurred in the spiritual realm - the old version of ourselves was actually put to death with Jesus, and we were raised to an entirely new life. This is not symbolic language or wishful thinking. It is a spiritual reality that changes everything about who we are. The sermon challenges us to recognize that we are no longer enslaved to sin, that death no longer has dominion over us, and that we have been transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the very life of Christ himself. We learn three crucial actions: we must **KNOW what God has done through the gospel, we must **CONSIDER** ourselves actually dead to sin and alive to God, and we must **PRESENT** ourselves as instruments of righteousness rather than unrighteousness. The message reminds us that Christians should experience joy, relationships, and even everyday pleasures at a deeper level than the world can offer, because we are no longer chasing lesser passions but living for the eternal satisfaction found only in God.**

Key Takeaways

- 1. Grace doesn't excuse sin—it empowers us to overcome it. We are no longer slaves to sin but alive to God.**
- 2. Our identity has fundamentally changed. The old self died with Christ; we've been raised to new life.**
- 3. Justification (status change) and sanctification (being set apart) are both part of salvation. God doesn't just declare us righteous; He makes us new.**
- 4. We must know the gospel, consider ourselves changed, and present ourselves to God. These are active responses to what God has done.**
- 5. True joy is found in God, not in lesser pleasures. Christians should enjoy life more deeply because we're connected to the source of all joy.**

INTO THE SERMON

Romans 5:12-21

- **What stood out to you most from this sermon? What challenged you or encouraged you?**
- **Pastor Sam said, "Belief drives behavior." How does this statement challenge the idea that we can believe in Jesus and continue living however we want?**
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INTO THE TEXT

- **Read Romans 6:1–14 together as a group.**
- **1) What question does Paul raise in verse 1, and why would someone logically ask it after everything he said in Romans 3–5?**
 - What misunderstanding of grace is Paul correcting?
- **2) According to verses 2–7, what does Paul say has actually happened to the believer?**
 - List the phrases that describe our new reality (died to sin, baptized into Christ, buried with Him, raised with Him, old self crucified, set free, etc.).
 - What do these phrases suggest about identity and position?
- **3) In verses 8–10, what does Paul say is true about Christ now?**
 - Why is it important that death no longer has dominion over Him?
- **4) In verses 11–13, Paul shifts from what is true to what we must do.**
 - What are the three key verbs in this section (know, consider, present)?
 - How do they move from belief → mindset → action?
- **5) Verse 14 says, "Sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace."**
 - How does being "under grace" actually break sin's power rather than encourage it?

TAKE AWAY / NOW WHAT

- **1) When you hear that you've been "united with Christ" and raised to new life, what stirs in you?**
 - Encouragement? Confusion? Hope? Resistance? Why?
- **2) Paul says to "consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God."**
 - What might it look like to gently remind yourself of that truth this week in a practical situation?
- **3) The passage speaks about not letting sin "reign" and instead presenting ourselves to God.**
 - What area of your life feels like it's in transition — where God may be inviting you into deeper freedom?
- **4) If sin no longer has dominion, but grace does, how does that shape the way you approach growth and change?**
 - Does it feel like pressure... or promise?
- **5) Where have you experienced even a small taste of the "newness of life" Paul describes?**
 - How can you lean into that this week?