

Session 09

# *United with* **CHRIST**

**CENTRAL TRUTH** | Believers have been united with Christ and empowered to walk in new life.

Imagine a friend hurt you but apologized, and you decided to forgive him or her. But then this friend continued to hurt you in the same way, over and over again. It would be fair to say that this friend abused the forgiveness you gave. Being forgiven should shape how your friend relates to you. In a similar way, Paul doesn't want his readers to abuse God's grace and to continue living in sin. Believers are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ. We are new creations! So, by the Spirit's power, we are to live in a way that pleases God. This week, we will see that believers have been united with Christ and empowered to walk in new life.



**REFLECT**

What questions do I have about God?

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What questions do I have about myself?

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What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

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**ROMANS 6:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> What should we say then? Should we continue in sin so that grace may multiply?

<sup>2</sup> Absolutely not! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order

that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of his resurrection.

**ROMANS 6:6-11**

<sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be rendered powerless so that we may no longer be enslaved to sin, <sup>7</sup> since a person who has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him, <sup>9</sup> because we know that Christ, having

been raised from the dead, will not die again. Death no longer rules over him. <sup>10</sup> For the death he died, he died to sin once for all time; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So, you too consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**ROMANS 6:12-14**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, so that you obey its desires. <sup>13</sup> And do not offer any parts of it to sin as weapons for unrighteousness. But as those who are alive from the dead, offer yourselves to God, and

all the parts of yourselves to God as weapons for righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin will not rule over you, because you are not under the law but under grace.

## Day 01

# JOHN 10:7-10



Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

### 📍 READ & RESPOND

Jesus had just taught that His followers are like sheep who follow their Shepherd because they know His voice. But in this passage, He says He is also the gate for His sheep. A gate is the entry point into a safe place, but it also keeps out anyone who wants to harm the sheep. Jesus is both the way in and the protector. Just as sheep enter the gate and find a wide, safe pasture to eat and play in, Jesus offers us protection, peace, and security. Through Him, we get the promise of heaven and can also live a full life right now. The closer we follow Him and the more we listen to His voice, the more joyful and complete our lives will be.

← In a culture where sheep and shepherds were common, why would Jesus' words about being the gate have resonated so deeply with His listeners?

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↑ What does Jesus' role as the only gate reveal about God's plan for salvation?

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→ How can you live a life this week that reflects the abundance that Jesus promises?

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### 📍 MEMORIZE

Write **Romans 6:4** in a creative font and illustrate it with markers, paint, or other art supplies. Seeing the verse in a colorful and artistic way helps it stick in our minds. Hang it where you can see it every day.

### 📍 PRAY

*Jesus, You are the Way to a full life. Help me to follow You daily and to live a life that reflects the joy and peace You have given me.*

## Day 02

# ROMANS 6:1-5

### 📍 READ & RESPOND

Ever heard the saying, “The more you sin, the more grace you get”? Some people in Paul’s day believed this and thought it was okay to keep sinning so they could get more of God’s grace. Paul strongly disagreed! He explained that when we become Christians, we’re joined with Jesus in His death and resurrection. This means our old selves—the parts of us that loved sin—have died with Him. When Jesus died for our sins, it also became our death to sin. And just as Jesus was resurrected back to life, we too get a new life. This new life should be about living for God’s glory, not about getting more grace by sinning.

← Why would the idea of continuing in sin have been tempting for some of the new believers in Rome?

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→ How have you been tempted to continue in sin? How can you choose to walk in new life instead?

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↔ How can this passage help you encourage fellow believers who are struggling with sin?

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### 📍 MEMORIZE

Write each word of **Romans 6:4** on separate pieces of paper. Mix up the words and put them back in the correct order. This activity helps you think about the correct structure of the verse.

### 📍 PRAY

*Jesus, thank You for giving me new life. When I am tempted to take Your grace for granted, remind me that my old self has died with You. Give me the strength to walk in a new life that honors You.*

Day**03****ROMANS 6:6-11****READ & RESPOND**

When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, humanity came under the control of sin and death. But Jesus' death and resurrection changed everything! Our sins were nailed to the cross with Jesus, and when He resurrected, sin stayed dead. Its power was completely broken. So as Christians, our sins died on the cross, and when Jesus resurrected, we were given a new life that is no longer ruled by sin. Because sin no longer has power over us, our lives should be a reflection of that freedom. We can choose to do what is right, instead of being controlled by sin.

🕒 What is our "old self"? What does Paul say about our new life in Christ?

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↑ What does God's plan to free us from sin and give us a new life show us about His holiness and love?

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↓ What does this passage tell us about what people are like without Jesus?

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**MEMORIZE**

Write **Romans 6:4** on a small card. Walk around and say the verse out loud. The physical movement helps your brain process and remember the words. You can say it faster or slower as you walk.

**PRAY**

*Lord, thank You for the freedom from sin I have in You. Help me to live each day in a way that honors You for the new life You've given me.*

## Day 04

# ROMANS 6:12-14

### 📍 READ & RESPOND

Imagine you're driving a car. You're in charge, controlling where it goes and how fast or slow it travels. Before you became a Christian, sin was in the driver's seat of your life. It was in control, leading you in a direction that was all about you. But when you gave your life to Jesus, everything changed. Jesus took the wheel. He is now in control, and your perspective shifts. Instead of living a life focused on your own desires, you can live for God's kingdom. Paul explains that we are either weapons for sin or weapons for God. Since you are no longer a slave to sin, you should live your life for God's purposes.

🔄 What does Paul say sin should not do in your life? What does he say you should do instead?

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↓ What does this passage tell us about our daily struggle with sin, even as believers?

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→ How can you be used for God's kingdom? What talents and skills can you offer to God to be used for His purposes?

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### 📍 MEMORIZE

Write **Romans 6:4** on a sticky note and put it on your bathroom mirror. Every time you get ready in the morning or evening, say the verse out loud while looking at your reflection. The visual and verbal repetition will help you lock the words into your memory.

### 📍 PRAY

*God, thank You for how You have blessed me. Use my life to further Your kingdom. And when I'm tempted to let sin drive my life, remind me that You are now in control.*

Day **05****2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21****READ & RESPOND**

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, it was like a wall went up between humanity and God. That wall is called sin, and we could do nothing to tear it down on our own. So, God made a way through Jesus. Jesus defeated sin and death on the cross, and through the resurrection, that wall was broken down. We are now able to be reunited with God and become a completely new creation. While we live on earth, Christians are ambassadors for Christ. An ambassador is a person who lives in a foreign country but represents his or her home country. As Christ's ambassadors, we represent His kingdom, and our job is to share His message with the world: "Be reconciled to God!"

→ **As a new creation in Christ, what is one old habit you need to leave behind? How can you invite another believer into this process?**

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↔ **How should being an ambassador for Christ change the way you talk to and treat others?**

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↻ **How does this passage challenge you to pray for those who don't follow Jesus?**

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**MEMORIZE**

Make up a simple tune or rap to go with **Romans 6:4**. The rhythm and melody will help you remember the words. You can sing it to yourself or record it to listen to later.

**PRAY**

*Lord, thank You for making me a new creation in Christ. Please help me to live like an ambassador for You. Give me the courage to share the good news of reconciliation with everyone I meet.*