

**LifeGroup Shepherd Guide**April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026: Romans 6:1-14

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

**Quick Review**

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

**Introduction**

What is the most dramatic makeover or transformation you've ever witnessed; a house renovation, a person's style change, a car restoration. Did it hold up over time?"

**Digging In**

**Question 1: Read Romans 6:1-4.** In Romans 6:3, Paul asks "don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" What does it mean to be "baptized into Christ?" How is this different from water baptism as an outward act?

**Read Colossians 2:12** This passage links our burial and resurrection with Christ to "faith in the working of God." What does this tell us about who does the work in spiritual baptism? What is our part?

If spiritual baptism is the moment you were united with Christ's death and resurrection, can you describe a time when that truth moved from something you knew in your head to something you felt in your bones? What changed?

Water baptism is meant to be a public declaration of an inward reality. Is there a gap between how you present yourself spiritually in public and who you know yourself to be in private? What would it look like to close that gap?

**Question 2: Read Romans 6:6-7,11** Romans 6:6 says our "old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with." What does Paul mean by "the old self"? How does this connect to Galatians 2:20's declaration that "I no longer live"? Verse 11 commands us to "count yourselves dead to sin." The Greek word is an accounting term, a deliberate reckoning. Why does Paul command us to reckon what is already true? What's the difference between a fact that is true and a fact that is applied?

Is there a sin pattern in your life that you keep feeding? One you know is dead but treat as if it's still alive? What would it look like this week to "count it dead" rather than negotiate with it? Paul says in verse 7 that "anyone who has died has been set free from sin." Freedom is a gift you already possess! BUT do you live free? What lies or old identities are still speaking louder than this truth in your daily life?

**Question 3: Read Romans 6:11-14.** Romans 6:13 tells us to "offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life." How does the new creation language of 2 Corinthians 5:17 new heart (Ezek. 36:26), new spirit (Ezek. 18:31), new song (Psalm 40:3), new name (Revelation 2:17); fill out what it means to be "alive to God in Christ Jesus"? It also says to offer the parts of yourself as "instruments of righteousness." What is one part of your life: your time, your words, your relationships, your work - that you have been withholding from God? What is one concrete step you can take before next week to offer it?

### Application

1. Consider yourself dead to sin
2. Cleanse yourself from sin
3. Commit yourself to God

### Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

**Adoration** – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

**Confession** – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

**Thanksgiving** – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

**Supplication** – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?