



Romans 6:1-14; Jeremiah 20:7-13; Matthew 10:32-33

GETTING STARTED

Describe your first experience of going off the diving board (or rope swing, waterslide or other adventurous plummet).

READ and REFLECT

Read Romans 6:1-14.

What are the issues with these Christians the Apostle Paul is writing to?

What is baptism expressing in this passage? Is this the same or different in how you understand (and participated in?) baptism?

How would you explain *union with Christ* (6:5)?

What is our relationship with sin once we are in union with Christ?

ENGAGE and DISCUSS

Why do you think sin is so attractive or how is it can have such a grip in our lives?

Is it too strong to say that sin has *mastered or enslaved* parts of our lives? Why or why not? How would Paul respond?

What is key to breaking the power of sin in our lives in Romans 6? (See also Hebrews 12:1-3.)

How do the following "commitments" help us live fully alive in Christ and his resurrection?

- Commit your life to Christ as Lord (master) of your life.
- Commit to the essential practices of nurturing your union with Christ (worship with others, Bible reading, and regular prayer).
- Commit yourself to journey with a few others in a small group where you are encouraged and challenged to live into your faith more deeply (and you can do the same for others).
- Commit yourself to being a witness to Christ's power in both word and deed...in good times and bad (Jeremiah 20:9; Matthew 10:32-33).

NEXT STEPS

- Reflect on the verses for this study this week.
- How are you feeling led to respond to these Bible passages and this study?
- Will you commit yourself to being fully alive in Christ? What next step(s) will you take?