

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: A New Nature

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## **Memory Verse:** Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.*

**Big Idea:** Our salvation gives us a new nature that desires to obey God and sin less.

## **Read Romans 6:1-14**

1. Even though God's grace is displayed when we sin, that is not a reason to continue sinning (vv 1-2). Have you ever made excuses for your sin by saying, "God will forgive me anyway"? What does that reveal about our heart in those moments? How would you explain the difference between living under grace and abusing grace?
2. Paul uses the imagery of baptism to explain a spiritual reality that we have been buried with Christ in His death and raised to walk in newness of life (vv 3-4). What are some old ways or patterns you've left behind, or still need to? If you viewed your "old self" as dead and buried, how would that change your internal dialogue when you face a recurring temptation? How can we encourage one another to walk in newness of life daily?
3. While we can act like slaves to our moods, our appetites, or our anxieties, Paul reminds us that the handcuffs of sin have been unlocked (vv 6-7). What thoughts or behaviors try to keep you enslaved even though you've been set free? How do you typically respond when temptation feels strong? If you'd like



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to handle temptation better, what are some productive ways to respond?

4. Because of our union with Christ, we are to consider ourselves dead to sin (v 11). "Considering" is a mental discipline. What practices do you have (or would you like to have) to help you be more mindful about sin? Why is it important to intentionally remember and believe daily that we are dead to sin?
5. Just as Christ lives to God (v 10) we too, in Christ, are to live for God (v 11). Often, we share with people what they are saved *from*. How would you describe what we are saved *for*? In your own faith journey, when did you shift from just avoiding sin to actually living for God's purposes? What prompted that shift?
6. There is a call to action from Paul to purge sin from our bodies so that we do not obey its desires (v 12). How much time do you spend in self-reflection to identify sin in your life? What other means can help us see where we are missing the mark? Once sin is identified, what are some proven methods to purge it from our life?
7. Instead of offering ourselves to sin, we are called to offer every part of ourselves to God as instruments of righteousness (v 13). If you did an audit of your day, which part of you (your tongue, your eyes, your mind) is most often "handed over" to unrighteousness (gossip, lust, or worry)? How can you use your physical presence this week to be an "instrument of righteousness" for someone who is currently suffering or overlooked?
8. When Paul shares, "sin will not rule over you," he isn't denying that believers still struggle with sin. Rather he is affirming that sin's authority in a believer's life has been broken by grace (v 14). Even though sin may still tempt or trip us, how does knowing it no longer *rules* us bring hope in your daily walk? Share a time when the magnitude of God's grace has overwhelmed you.



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