

Foundations for Spiritual Growth – Week One

Should I Keep Giving in to My Habits of Sin?

Romans 5:20–6:5

Introduction: When people come to Christ, one of the first issues they face is this: “Is it okay for me to continue to live the way I’ve been living in the past? Many others seem to be living this way?” Paul uses this question to begin his principles of spiritual growth in Romans 6-8.

- 1. A GOOD QUESTION – This question is natural because of what Paul has said elsewhere in Romans. *Romans 5:20; 6:1-2a***
 - A. What exactly does Paul mean when he says, “continue in sin?” 6:1
 - B. Why is this a good question? 5:21; 6:1
 - C. What is the choice Paul is about to present?

- 2. FIRST ANSWER – No, because your relationship with sin is different. *Romans 6:2-4a***
 - A. Paul suggests we need some new knowledge. “Do you not know?” 6:3a
 - B. Positional truth #1: You have been removed from the realm of sin. 6:2b
 - C. Positional truth #2: The way God did this was through the process of identification. 6:3
 - D. Result: You live in a new realm whether you feel it or not. You have a choice.

- 3. SECOND ANSWER – No, because your purpose in life is now different. *Romans 6:4b-5***
 - A. Positional truth #3: We are identified with Jesus in his resurrection. 6:4b
 - B. Positional truth #4: Our share in Jesus’ resurrection-life is real; it’s not wishful thinking. 6:5
 - C. Result: We don’t have to live the way we once did.