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Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Freedom from Sin Romans 6:1-14

Lesson Background and Introduction

Through the sin of Adam, death came into the world (3:19; Romans 5:12). Jesus, however, has done what Adam could not. Jesus, God himself in the flesh, was sinless despite temptation (Hebrews 4:15). And his death and resurrection brought grace and life to the world (Romans 5:17). Now, in Romans 6, Paul turns to examine the practical effect of Jesus' work in our lives. With Jesus' resurrection we see that both the new era of resurrection life and the old era of sin and brokenness exist side by side until Christ's return. Through faith in Jesus, believers have the beginnings of resurrection life in the Holy Spirit right now (Ephesians 1:13-14). This is our spiritual resurrection and new life in Christ (2:1, 6; Colossians 3:1). The fullness of this new life will come with the final resurrection from physical death. For the believer, new life is both present and future. Our baptism has united us with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. With his death, we are set free from slavery to sin. With his resurrection, we are given new life. However, we must make the choice of how we will live in this new freedom. We may continue to live in disobedience, becoming slaves to sin all over again. Or we may choose to live in righteousness, enjoying the new life Christ has purchased for us. Out of our knowledge of, and gratitude for, the grace of God, let us eagerly serve righteousness. It's the best life now, and forever.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

Letting Go of Sin - Some people take advantage of God's forgiveness. They think, I can live any old way I please, and God will forgive me. The apostle Paul said absolutely not! A person with that kind of attitude and thinking is uninformed about the seriousness of sin and God's price to wipe it out through Christ's crucifixion. Once a person professes his or her belief in Jesus as Savior and becomes a Christian, the relationship to sin changes. That person should not desire to habitually sin. Jesus releases the burden of having to carry our sins around. To continue in sin would be to ignore the price Jesus paid on the Cross.

Baptism - In baptism, the new believer reenacts Jesus' death (being buried with Him) and then the resurrection (being raised to new life). Baptism shows something has changed inside the person. Following baptism, the person has a new, daily walk in faith proclaiming a relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Right Thing to Do - Paul said the new, resurrected self replaces the old person. No more speaking and acting against God. The Christian is now His representative, His advocate. However, the temptation to sin is still there. The right thing to do is to honor God by obeying His commands and walking in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Those committed to Christ long to live a life in spiritual harmony with Him.

Walking in Liberty - Paul gave instructions as to how to walk in liberty, free from sin. Rebellion and wrongdoing against God can naturally exist within through temptation by the devil. Our flesh wants to do wrong, to satisfy the wrong appetites. But Paul said, devote your whole body to God, ask Him to use it for His plans and purposes, and exhibit right living.

Why Battle This Out? - Believers are under grace, not law, right? Legalism is living by the law. The law can tell you where you fall short, but who wants to continually live under condemnation? The Bible is full of God's grace, His favor toward us in spite of our wrongs. Recognizing the Lord's love and generosity should cause us to listen to His voice and heed His instructions.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

The prison of sin cannot withstand the power of Christ's forgiveness

COMMENT FOR THE WEEK:

Through Christ's sacrifice, we are set free from the prison of sin to know His joy and love and the freedom that only forgiveness can bring

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord gives freedom to the prisoners

(Ps 146:7 NKJV)

From "Our Daily Bread", Oct 04, 2016)

Series: God Frees and Redeems

UNIT 3: Liberating Letters

NEXT WEEK

**Freedom for the Future
(Romans 8:18-30)**

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Freedom through Death to Sin (Rom 6:1-6)

By not continuing in sin (1-2)

Not continuing in sin through obeying the Bible (1 John 2:1)

Not continuing in sin by being careful whom we associate (1 Cor 15:33-34)

Not continuing in sin through the power of God's grace (Titus 2:11-12)

Not continuing in sin through holiness (1 Peter 1:15-17)

By being baptized into death (3-4)

Baptized into death to symbolize burying our sins (Col 2:12-13)

Baptized into death to symbolize being hidden in Jesus Christ (Col 3:1-3)

Baptized into death to symbolize being baptized into one body (1 Cor 12:13)

Baptized into death to symbolize being clothed with Jesus (Gal 3:27)

By being resurrected (4-6)

Resurrected to present us to God (2 Cor 4:14)

Resurrected to be seated with Jesus in heavenly places (Eph 2:5-7)

Resurrected because God predestined us for glorification (Rom 8:30)

Resurrected so that Jesus will be glorified in His holy people (2 Thess 1:10)

Resurrected because of being God's chosen people (1 Peter 2:9-10)

Freedom from Death into New Live (Rom 6:7-11)

From death because of being freed from sin (7)

Free from sin through justification (Rom 3:22-24)

Free from sin so that we might have peace with God (Rom 5:1-2)

Free from sin of the trespass of Adam (Rom 5:15)

Free from sin through grace (2 Cor 8:9)

Free from sin through a gift from God (Eph 2:8)

New life because of having eternal life through Jesus (8, 10-11)

Eternal life that comes through being in Jesus (1 John 5:11-12)

Eternal life that God promised before the beginning of time (Titus 1:2)

Eternal life because of being an heir of God (Titus 3:7)

Eternal life given to display Jesus' unlimited patience (1 Tim 1:16)

Eternal life given through mercy (Jude 1:21)

From death because of it having no dominion anymore (9)

No dominion because of death no longer reigning (Rom 5:14)

No dominion because of being under grace (Rom 6:14)

No dominion through freedom from the fear of death (Heb 2:14-15)

No dominion through Jesus destroying death (2 Tim 1:10)

Freedom from Unrighteousness to Righteousness (Rom 6:12-14)

By not letting sin reign (12-13)

Not letting sin reign in our bodies (Romans 7:23-24)

Not letting sin reign to lead us to willfully sin (Psalms 19:13)

Not letting sin reign our footsteps (Psalms 119:133)

Not letting sin reign through our sinful nature (Romans 8:13)

By being under grace (14)

Grace through endurance (2 Tim 2:11-13)

Grace through the first resurrection (Rev 20:6)

Grace through being in the brilliant presence of God (Rev 22:5)

Grace that provides way of living in this present age (Titus 2:11-12)

Grace from the God of all grace (1 Peter 5:10)