

Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you ever thought much about the purpose of baptism and communion in the church? What was your understanding of them?
- Read Romans 6:1-14.
 What is the point of this passage? What is Paul trying to explain to the Roman Christians (and to us)?
- 3. Paul assumes that his readers have been baptized since they are Christians and uses the symbolism of that common experience to build his argument. What is the symbolism in baptism according to verses 3-4?
- 4. Why can Christians not continue to live lives of unrepentant sin?
- 5. Verse 11 tells us how to do it, what does it say?
- 6. How do we consider ourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus? What does it mean?
- 7. Have you ever considered looking back at your baptism as a method of fighting sin? Do you think it would help? Why or why not?
- 8. What role does the Holy Spirit play in this? What is the connection between remembering you have been made new and the Holy Spirit?
- 9. Are there sins you are struggling to say no to? What will you do to change? How can we help you?
- 10. Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 What is the problem that Paul is addressing in this passage? What was happening at the Corinthian church?
- 11. Paul tells the Corinthians that what they are doing is not the Lord's supper (v 20) and that they are despising the church of God (v 22). In verses 23-25, he explains why it's such a

big deal. He does this simply by describing what Communion is. The bread and the cup represent the body and blood of Jesus, who died for our sins. When we eat and drink, what are we doing? (Two things: one in v 24-25, one in v 26)

- 12. Jesus makes reference to the New Covenant in verse 25. The New Covenant is a promise God made to His people long ago. A promise to forgive their sins and make them new (Jeremiah 31:31-34). Jesus kicked off the New Covenant and offered it to Gentiles too when He died on the cross. Ezekiel 36:25-27 talks about the new covenant, but it adds one important detail in verse 27, what is that detail?
- 13. The church is a community people who have been forgiven and made new because of the death and resurrection of Jesus for our sins. We have the Holy Spirit living in us. Because of that, we don't need to worry about the coming judgement of God, though He disciplines our sins (1 Corinthians 11:32). So what should our attitudes be towards one another when we take communion? How can you live this out in our church? What do you need to do differently? How can we help you?