

Sermon Discussion Questions

Metamorphosis By Grace

Romans 6:1-23

February 26, 2017

1. What do you think has been the biggest change that has happened in your life?
2. Have you ever known anyone whom God has truly changed—like a real metamorphosis in them? Share some stories.
 - Agree or disagree with this statement, “It is rare to see God truly transform people.” Discuss.
3. Read Romans 6:3. We have been baptized into Christ Jesus and therefore into His death. “Baptized” means “identified with.” If we are identified with Christ, then we are identified with His death. What does this next sentence mean, and do you agree with it? “The significance is His death happened to accomplish one thing—to carry my sin into His death.”
 - What is the significance of the death of Jesus as it relates not to the penalty for our sins, but as it relates to the power of sin in our lives according to Romans 6:5-7?
4. Remember the story of Jeremy trying to look through the scope of a 30-06 rifle? When you think about wrestling with sin, or wanting God to bring about a metamorphosis (a change) in your life, what do you focus on most: The wrong in me — or — the Lord’s ability in me to change me?
 - Agree or disagree: “We can’t we focus on both our sin and the Lord’s work in us and have victory over sin”?
 - Why do people think more about their faults than the power of the Lord’s grace (Romans 6:14)?
5. Romans 6:12-13 calls the members of our body (the physical parts of us) as “instruments.” The original Greek word translated as “instruments” here is only found 4 other times in the Bible (John 18:3; 2 Corinthians 6:7; 2 Corinthians 10:4; and Rom 13:12). Each time a military term is used. Can you spot those terms in the four other passages?
 - Can you think of any significance in labeling the members of our body with military terms rather than “instruments” that might help us understand what Paul’s point was in Romans 6:12-13?
6. Read Romans 6:19 and discuss what is “lawlessness” according to this chapter in the Bible.
 - 1 John 2:16 spells out lawlessness using three phrases. Give three tangible examples for each of the descriptive phrases. How do we overcome these sins according to Romans 6?
7. Romans 6:23 is often quoted in a salvation presentation (using it to talk about justification — God saving us from the *penalty* of sin). Given the context of Romans 6, how might you interpret Romans 6:23 as a verse about sanctification (God saving us from the *power* of sin). Which one (justification or sanctification) is best to understand what this verse is speaking to, and why?