

Sin Dead, Christ Alive

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:8-11 (NIV84)

Q: What does baptism symbolize?

Discipleship is a heart issue that works itself out through all of our extremities.

Baptism is a metaphor of what has taken place in the heart of a disciple.

Disciples thoughtfully apply this truth:

- Were crucified and buried with Christ in the water and are dead to sin.
- Were raised with Christ from the water to new life and are alive to God.
 - Father: adopted by/restored to.
 - Son: Friend and Lord.
 - Holy Spirit: presence, guidance.

Motion: Be Fully Alive

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Deepening Your Walk with God

For the week of March 13, 2016

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from *Sin Dead, Christ Alive*, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you? (Be sure to check out lakeviewowego.com for a link to the Alliance website on baptism and some words from John Piper about baptism. Follow the DISCIPLE link to this week's page.)

MY STORY

1. What other ceremonies of initiation are you aware of or have you been involved in?
2. Have you been baptized? Why did you decide to be baptized, or why have you decided not to do so yet?

DIGGING DEEPER

Take a few minutes to meditate on the metaphor of baptism, asking God to bring the richness of the metaphor alive to you in a new way.

1. **Death and Life Situation.** Read Romans 6:1-14 from the sheet inserted into this sermon fill-in insert. In verses 3-11 mark (circle/highlight/underline/etc.) all the phrases that deal with the imagery of death, mark in a different way all the phrases that deal with the imagery of life.

Reread all of the phrases with the imagery of death that you marked. Summarize all of these in one sentence.

Reread all of the phrases with the imagery of life that you marked. Summarize all of these in one sentence.

Verse 10 says “count yourselves...” Read the entire verse over several times using these words from other translations in place of “count”: “*reckon*” (KJV), “*consider*” (ESV, NASB), “*see*” (BBE), “*think of*” (Message).

In your own words, describe what it means to do this action of “counting yourself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” In other words, how do you do this action of counting yourself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus?

What is the importance of doing this action in your life? In other words, what does it change in our lives and how does it change it?

2. Put Off, Put On. Read Colossians 2:9-12 and notice the use of the baptism metaphor that is strikingly similar to how Paul uses it in Romans 6. Now read Colossians 3:5-14. Here Paul uses the metaphor of putting clothes on and off.

How is this metaphor of putting clothes on and off similar to the metaphor of baptism used in Colossians 2 and Romans 6?

The last two weeks Pastor Todd has said “*Discipleship is a heart issue that works itself out through all of our extremities.*” Think about these two metaphors of baptism and clothing. In what way is baptism a metaphor of the heart and in what way is clothing a metaphor of the extremities?

TAKING IT HOME

1. A Heart Issue. What is one thing you can do to remind yourself that the imagery of baptism, being dead to sin and alive to Christ, is the reality of the heart condition that God calls us to live by? If you cannot think of something, then try writing out Romans 6:11 on a index card and posting it in a conspicuous place.

2. Working It Out in Your Extremities? Think of the metaphor of putting on and putting off clothing from Colossians. What is one area or action in your life where you need to put off an old action of self/sin and put on a new action of God/Christ?

I need to put off:

In its place I need to put on:

NEXT STEPS

Which of these NEXT STEPS will you do in order to encourage people to begin, resume or continue their spiritual journey?

___ Join a Small Group for the DISCIPLE series.

___ Become a disciple by placing your faith in Christ.

___ Identify with Jesus’ death/resurrection by being baptized into Christ.

___ Make one significant change in your obedience to Christ’s teachings.

___ Make a kingdom introduction with someone on your Pi2 card.

___ Your Next Step: _____

PRAYER REQUESTS

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