

ROMANS GROWTH PATH – SPRING #3

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Read Romans 6 and then answer the following questions:

1. Read 1 Peter 4:1 - How was his verse similar to Romans 6:7?

What is the overall context of Peter's discussion (1 Peter 3:13-17)?

What is Peter's focus on: theological discussion or practical Christian living?

What does Peter mean when he says the believer who suffers "has ceased from sin" (1 Peter 4:1a)?

Are Peter and Paul discussing the same relationship between suffering and not sinning? If not, explain the difference between the points each is making. (Why should suffering for one's faith cause one to cease from sin?)

2. Read Mark 16:16 and Acts 2:38; 16:31-34. How much time apparently passed between the conversation of a new believer and his or her baptism?

How has that changed in contemporary Christianity?

When did your own baptism take place relative to the time of your conversion to Christ?

In early Christianity, baptism normally occurred immediately following conversion. How does this help your understanding of Romans 6:3?

Explain in your own words how water baptism (as described in this lesson) helps us picture the believer's identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

3. Read Galatians 2:20. In your own words, relate the truths you have learned from Romans 6 to what Paul says in this verse.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live"

"I live; yet not I, but Christ live within me".

"The life which I now live in, the flesh I live by faith"

"Christ lives within me... and gave Himself for me"

4. In light of Roman 6 (your identification by faith with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ), describe some of the things which are now true about you which were not true before your conversion to Christ.

How big a role does your feelings and emotions play in your living out what Roman 6 teaches?

How big a role should they play? (Remember: is reconciling your checkbook a "feeling" experience or a "factual" experience.