



# NEWNESS OF LIFE

## **Newness of Life**

### **Key idea:**

Christians receive newness of life through the death and resurrection of Christ, and are empowered to walk in this newness through the bonds of grace.

### **Key text:**

Romans 6:1-18 (ESV)

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

**Key points:**

1. Christ's death is our death, and Christ's life is our life.
2. It is not simply wrong for the Christian to persist in living a sinful life. Scripture is clear such a thing is *inconceivable*.
3. As Christians, we have been set free from sin through his death and placed in bondage to righteousness through life.

**Questions for discussion/application:**

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. What does Paul mean when he talks about newness of life? Is it something that is possible on our own?
3. How does this teaching affect my understanding of, and appreciation for, baptism as an identification with Christ?
4. What specifically about this passage encourages me to walk in newness of life?
5. In what areas do I consider returning to my former master of sin? How can I ask God for help in these areas?
6. Who will I call or see to encourage in walking in newness of life this week?