



Group Leader Guide

Series: The Heart - Week 3

Scripture: Romans 6:1-14

Leader Notes:

This week we are going to consider how we can possibly keep our hearts close to God even as we face constant temptation!

We sometimes don't give enough thought to the reality that Christ had to keep his heart close to God in the midst of temptation just like we do. Christ didn't remain sinless in this life because he was never tempted. Christ remained sinless because he resisted the temptation to sin.

In fact, we have multiple accounts of how Christ was sorely tempted. In the gospels we read of the temptation of Christ at the hands of Satan himself. Satan tempted Christ to turn for the plans of the Father. Satan tempted Christ to trust in himself instead of the Father. Through three temptations, Christ stood his ground, trusted in the Father, and turned away from sin.

If we are going to grow into the image of Christ then we too must learn to resist temptation and keep our hearts close to God.

Bottom Line:

We can resist temptation when we understand what Christ has done for us and who we are in Him.

Introduction:

Christians are more than just forgiven people, we are people who have been born again by the grace of Jesus Christ. Paul writes about what a born again Christian looks like in Romans 6. Born again Christians are men and women who refuse to go on living in sin because the grace of God has acted in their life in a transformative way. The grace of God transforms Christians by killing the old person who was ruled by sin and giving us new life in Christ. This transformative power of God's grace gives us a brand new identity. We are now united with Christ and live from him alone.

BELONG – Begin by allowing the group a time to connect and care for one another! Take prayer requests and start the group in prayer.

Ice Breaker Questions:

- How does understanding the significance of what Christ has done for us impact the way we live?

BELIEVE – Take time to study the Bible together.

Read Romans 6:1-14

Teaching Points:

- Grace does more than forgive sinners. Grace kills the old man in us and gives us new life.
- Christians are people who are united with Christ.
- We resist sin and temptation as Christians because we would rather honor Christ and stay close to him that experience the benefits of sin.
- Grace is not a get out of jail free card for sin!

Questions For Discussion

1. How many times are the words died, dead, or death used in verses 1-14? What does this text teach us about death?

2. According to our text this week, what happened that made us to be “dead to sin”?

3. Verse 7 is a very bold statement! Let’s unpack it a little bit. What does this statement mean?

What does this look like in our lives?

4. What about Sunday’s sermon stuck out to you or challenged you? What did you learn, love, or were you reminded of?

BECOME – Make application and determine to follow Christ better.

Close the group by praying for God to help us lean into him and intentionally fight sin.