



Sermon Discussion Guide

November 9, 2025 | Romans 6:1-4 | Brad

SUMMARY

Big Idea: The same Grace that Justifies also Sanctifies

Chapters 6-8 of Romans brings us to a new focus. In chapters 1-5, Paul taught us how someone can become a Christian – that justification is by grace alone, through faith alone. Beginning in chapter 6, Paul moves forward into teaching us how our justification informs how we live the Christian life. Notably, he does not begin with lists of do this and don't do that. Instead, he offers us something more foundation – to live the Christian life, we must first grasp and believe who it is that we are, who it is that God has made us to be in Christ. United to Christ, in his death and resurrection, we have died to sin, in order to walk in new life. License and legalistic perfection are two ditches off the narrow path of applied grace for sanctification that leads to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro:

1. Have you ever been stuck, trapped, or lost, with no way out? What happened? (Do people still fall into wells?)

Read Romans 6:1-4

2. What ditch or danger is represented by the question in verse 1?
 - a. What about this question seems somewhat reasonable, in light of 5:20?
3. In Paul's response in v.2-4, is he teaching that Christians should be sinless? How do you know?
4. In what ways are you tempted to view the Christian life through the lens of license or legalistic perfectionism?
 - a. Refer to the lists of "signs" on page two and consider, where do you see these in your own life? Would you add any other indicators? What/why?
 - b. License / Legalism - Do you lean more toward one than the other?
 - c. How does license ravage grace? How does legalism deny grace?
5. Looking at verses 3-4, how does the gospel-living apply grace?
 - a. What foundational truth does Paul want for us to know about our new identity?
 - b. How is it connected to what is put on display in our baptism?
6. Interact with the following quote: *"The intended purpose of grace is to get us out of our sin, not to make us more comfortable in it."* (true, not true, convicting, helpful?)
7. How could this passage, Romans 6:1-4, inform your articulation of the Gospel?

KINGDOM IMPACT - MULTIPLY

1. **Pray, Think, and Act.** Share any developments and updates in the areas below:
 - a. **Reach** – That God would use you to lead 1 person to faith in Christ;
 - b. **Belong** – to multiply opportunities for others to be brought into community
 - c. **Serve** – to begin serving, invite others into serving, or multiplying serving efforts by meeting needs or blessing neighbors or ministry partners together as a group
 - d. **Gather** – to multiply the church (planting, revitalization, helping other churches)

7 Signs that you think grace gives you license

1. **Plan.** You proactively plan to sin, knowing it's sin, but with the thought, no worries, God will forgive me.. it's just a little sin after all - I don't think it'll hurt anyone
2. **No Conviction / Confession.** Lack of conviction and brokenness over sin (not just over sin's consequences.) You think God's okay with your sinful choices, therefore, even though the Bible calls us to confess our sins to one another, you're silent, with nothing to confess.
3. **No Repentance.** Lack of repentance, and over time, lack of evidence of a transformed life
4. **No Community / Accountability.** You avoid community and accountability that comes in community, preferring to keep on living the way you want to live
5. **Excuse, Minimize, Rationalize.** When confronted or convicted about your sin, you excuse, minimize, rationalize, and/or justify your sin.. "My sin, it's not a big deal," you think.
6. **Encourage or Indifferent.** You encourage, approve, affirm, or maybe you just have a silent indifference to other professing "Christians" who are living sinful lives - You think, "You do you. God's grace will cover it all"
7. **No Hunger for Righteousness.** You don't hunger and thirst for righteousness. You aren't devoted to growing in the knowledge of God, not proactively pursuing God, and seeking at every turn to bring glory to him. There no evidence of fighting the good fight of faith

5 Signs that Perfectionism has infiltrated your view of sanctification

1. **"I'm good"** - When people ask you how you are, you always say, I'm good..
2. **Peace is Elusive** - Peace with God is elusive to you, because you never feel like you're good enough to be on good terms with God. For that matter, joy and delight in God is also waning or non-existent.
3. **Fear of Man** - You experience crippling fear that if you open yourself up, if you were really honest about your sin and failure, others would reject you, they would not be gracious toward you. You fear you'd be seen as a fraud, an imposter, and so you isolate, you remain hidden, and detached from renewing community
4. **No Grace for Yourself** - Ironically, you see your need for grace, but you don't avail yourself to it, because you are held captive by guilt and shame. You fear that maybe God's grace and mercy and patience has run out, that His supply has run dry
5. **No Grace for Others** - Having not received grace and not rejoicing in grace on a regular basis yourself, you find yourself being grace-less - critically harsh and condemning toward other people's sin and shortcomings. You are shocked, appalled when others sin. While you may call them out or judge them from a distance, you never enter in to their lives, to actually minister to them.