

# Still in Hiding: Hiding from a New Life

## Monday

"Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."—Romans 5:20 In Romans 6:1 Paul asks the question should we keep on sinning to see more of God's grace and forgiveness. So what is our response to this? Should we use grace as an excuse to sin? Read Romans 2:3-10 and Philippians 3:15-21.

## Tuesday

How do we keep from letting sin reign in our mortal bodies? Our old body has been put to death. This doesn't mean it has no presence in our lives. We still face a continual struggle as we fight against our old desires. But it does mean that the chains are broken. We are free from its power. We are free to do what is right. Read James 1:12-14 and Galatians 5:16-25

## Wednesday

It is clear that sin has no place in our life. But practically speaking we still yield to it sometimes. We must make a firm decision, a strong choice that we will not give in to temptation. Of course we cannot stand against it on our own strength. But we must take the strength that God gives us and refuse to give in. We should flee from the place of temptation. Not only must we not do the wrong things, we must make a whole-hearted effort to do the right things. It is not easy to do righteous things and good deeds. It takes a conscious decision of the mind and a strong will to do what is good even when it is hard. Read Romans 7:18-24 Paul admitted that sometimes he did evil; even as a saved, born-again, believer; but carefully notice that it grieved Paul, because the Holy Spirit convicted him, and Paul DIDN'T want to sin. This is in sharp contrast to the unsaved world that rejects Jesus Christ and couldn't care less about doing what's pleasing to God.

## Thursday

Baptized into Christ- This theme of identifying ourselves together with Christ and His death, burial, and resurrection continues through the rest of the chapter. Many scholars believe this is not referring to water baptism, but is referring to the spiritual uniting with Christ that takes place when we place our faith in Him. So when we trust in Christ figuratively we are united with Christ in His death and resurrection. As He was transformed after death and resurrection so shall we be. Read Galatians 3:26-28, Colossians 2:11-13, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:1-6,

## Friday

Baptized into death/our old self was crucified with Him - So what does it mean that we were baptized into Christ's death? It means that our old self has been crucified. It means that we are dead to sin. We are no longer to be slaves of sin. We are freed from the power and consequences of sin. Christ's death was the turning point in His life when Satan realized he lost and Christ won. The moment we make the decision to repent of our sins and trust in Christ, we face the same turning point in our own lives. At that point we no longer belong to Satan. We belong to Christ. How should we live when we belong to Christ? Read 1 John 3: 16-24

## Saturday

We just looked at the doctrine that we are dead to sin. We don't have to keep on doing evil. The opposite side of this coin is that we can live like Christ. Part of having spiritual life, means having the ability to live a holy and victorious life like Christ. When Christ died, that wasn't the end. He didn't cease to exist. Instead He was raised. He had new life. The same is true for us. When we die to sin, we don't cease to exist. We know that our lives are to be different than before, but the world is not easy to live a different life in. Everywhere we go the world is trying to press us into its mold, into its way of living and way of thinking. How do we overcome the world's temptations? Read James 1:12-16, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Corinthians 10: 4-7, Psalms 28:7. 2 Samuel 22:1-3, Ephesians 6:16