

God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Romans 5:20-21*



Have you ever picked up a habit (could be good or bad) without really knowing where it came from? What was it, and why does it come to mind?

1. Read Romans 5:12-14. Paul says sin entered the world through one man and spread to everyone. How do you believe this effects you?
 - Do you think of sin more as an action or as a condition? Why?
 - Where do you see brokenness in the world that no one seems to have chosen – but everyone feels?
 - Why do you think people resist the idea that all of humanity is shaped by Adam's sin?
2. In Romans 5:15-17 Paul emphasises that what Jesus did is *greater*, or *much more* than what Adam did – why do you think this emphasis is important?
 - Vse 17 says believers can *reign in life*, what does that look like practically in our every day lives? (John 10:10 & Galatians 5:1 may help)
 - Why is it important for us to understand the importance of receiving grace rather than trying to earn it?
3. Think about when you were living in Adam's story and how you are living now in Jesus' story – how would you go about telling someone else about the difference?

4. Read Romans 5:18-21.

Vse 20 says, “Where sin increased, grace increases even more,” What does this reveal about God’s character? (Psalm 103:10-12, & 1 John 1:9)

- If grace increases even more when sin increases – why should we stop sinning? (Romans 6:1-2 & Romans 6:15-18)
- Why do so many Christians appear to still be living in the *old story*, where guilt, shame and defeat have control?
- What steps can we take to ensure we understand and are living in the reality of grace reigning in our lives? (Romans 8:1-2, Colossians 2:13-14)

4. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. This passage emphasises the great commission given to all believers:

- What does it mean to be an ambassador for Jesus in our every day lives?
- Why do people come to faith more through relationships than information?
- Why do many Christians believe they can not share their faith?
- The message suggested three steps: **Notice – Name _ Next.**
 - Why is noticing people important? (Matthew 9:36-38)
 - Why is sharing your story powerful? (Mark 5:19)
 - Why is inviting someone to a *next step* effective?
- If you had a brief opportunity to share how Jesus has changed your life to a friend – what would you say?

5. **Response prayer:** How can your Life Group pray for you tonight?

- For freedom from guilt/shame/condemnation.
- Healing for wounds you carry
- Confidence in grace being *much more!*
- Courage to speak to one person this week about Jesus.
- Confidence that God will provide opportunities that I will recognise and step into.