

Staying Dead

April 21, 2013

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

- Last week, you were asked to think about one lie about your life that you need to begin to tell yourself the truth about. How did it go? What did you learn about yourself?

**With your Bible or YouVersion read Romans 6:9-13, 14; 15, 18-20; Colossians 3:1-4** - If we're dead to sin, if sin isn't our master, how do we live that out? Living as a slave to sin takes no initiative on our part. What does it look like to live without sin as master over our mouth, our eyes, our minds, our insecurities, our appetites?

- How would you define the word "sin"?
- Have you ever tried to conquer sin in your life through will-power? What happened?
- When you wrestle with sin, which side of the argument do you identify with, Adam (here I go again) or Christ (sin is not my master)?
- You various parts of your body can either be used for sinful purposes or as instruments of right-doing. What are some ways that those parts have been slaves to sin? How could that change as you remind yourself that sin is not your master and that you are in

Christ? What would that look like?

- What do you think Paul means when he writes that "you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ"? Why is it hard to live as though this is the truth
- What is one thing you can do this week to stop trying to imitate Christ and to let Him live His life through you? What can others do to support you?

### Think it Over

When sin comes calling, it comes against Christ in you. You can't handle it, but Christ can – not because He's more disciplined, but because your life dwells in Him.

Everyday, declare that sin is not your master, decided not to let sin rule you, and devote the members of your physical body as instruments of right-doing.

#### Talk It Over with God:

These prayer tips can guide your time alone with God each day. Praying with a friend or a small group might help you stick to it.

- Continue to take your struggle to "do what you know you ought to do" to God. Listen for his direction for how he wants to work in you by the Holy Spirit and through others to bring freedom.
- Ask God to work in you as you decide not to let sin rule over you. Ask that He would help you to discern the work of sin in it's approach so that you can devote bodies actions to right-doing rather than wrong-doing.
- As you pray ask God to help you to stay dead to sin. It will not give up it's battle for you. Remind yourself often that Christ is in you.