



## LEADERS GUIDE: 4/16/17 | Romans 6:1-11

1. What was one aspect of the Good Friday or Easter Sunday sermons that impacted you in a new way this year? What are the implications of that on your life and faith?

-The beauty of the Easter season is that it encompasses all of our emotions. It provides context and hope for those who are wrestling with struggle (Good Friday and the resurrection), and also aligns the joy and worship of believers to the right object. It anchors all of our human experience to the story of salvation. In answering this opening question we really want you to think not only on what stood out to you, but also what the implications of that are for your Christian faith or understanding of the gospel.

2. How did the illustration from Charles Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities" help you understand the exchange of identities between you and Christ?

-Tyler shared the conclusion of the Tale of Two Cities, wherein a free man exchanged places with a condemned man, in order that the condemned man may live a life of joy with his wife and child. The only way this exchanged happened is because the two men swapped lives and names. The one who lived had to live under the name of the one who died. The emphasis of this story is on the idea of and "exchange" but also on the beauty of a new life which the exchange brought about. Often times we read verses like Romans 6:11 and we don't see the necessity of living life in Christ. And yet the stakes are even higher than in Dickens' book. Christ took our name in his death, so that we might take his name in our life. The resurrection shows that everything Christ wanted to accomplish in our life is possible because God is the author of all life.

3. Read Romans 6:11-12. How can applying Jesus' resurrection into your life help you fight sin?

-This wasn't a direct point of application from the sermon, but it is a direct implication of both the text and the sermon. The only ground we have in fighting sin is knowing that we have already died to it. We would be less scared of snakes if we knew we had already built up an immunity to the venom. Romans 6:11-12 gives us two ways the resurrection helps us to fight sin: First, it reminds us that we have died to sin and sin (just as with Jesus in Romans 6:10) no longer has power over us. Second, it reminds us that we are given life inside of our forgiveness. We have both power over death and the power of resurrected life. We are free to not choose sin for the first time, but also we are free to choose obedience just as Jesus did. This truth doesn't mean we won't face temptation, but it does mean we will never face it without the twofold power of Jesus.