



# Sunday Equipping



Perimeter  
CHURCH

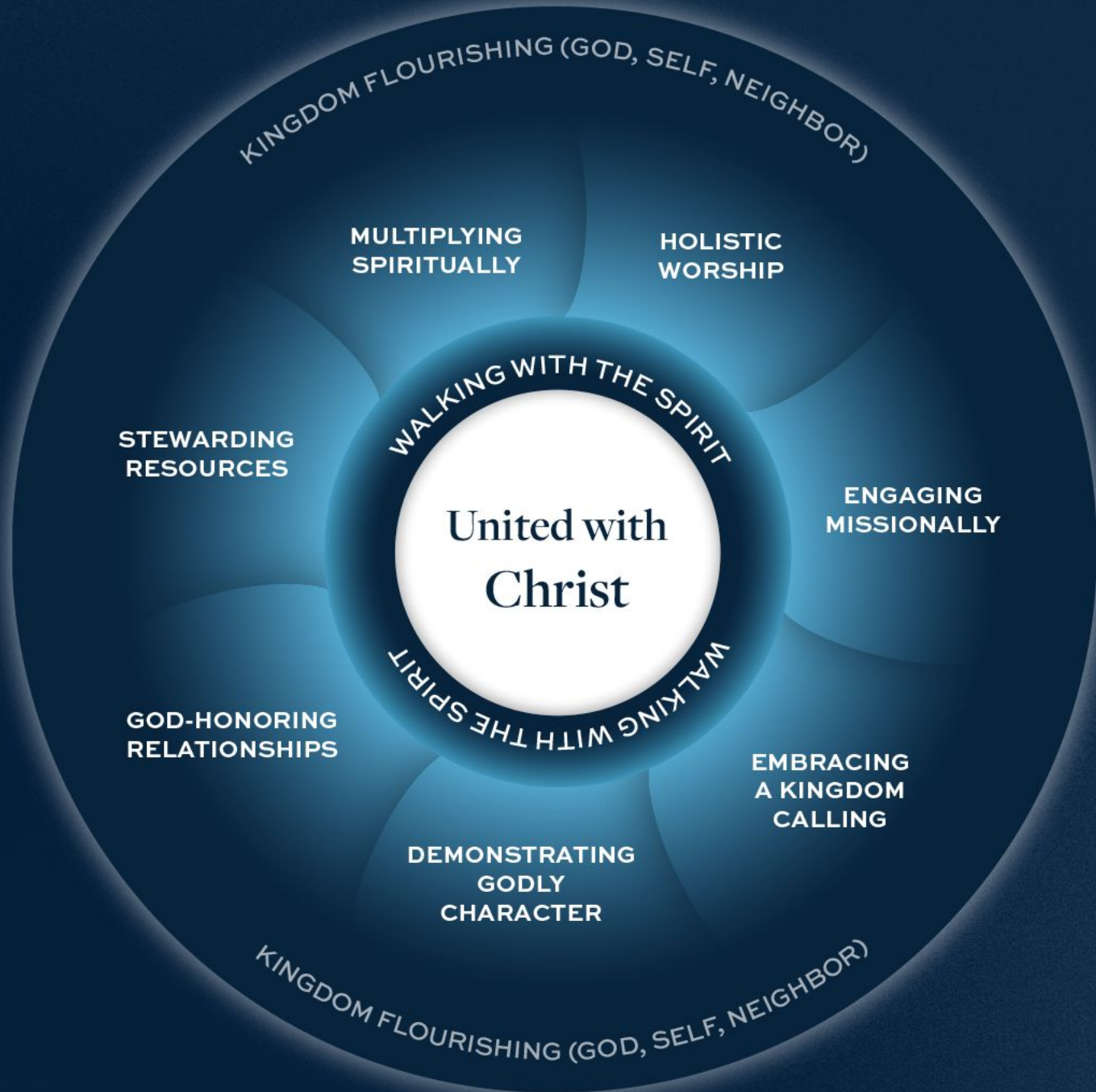


# Union with Christ

## Romans 6:1-11



Perimeter  
CHURCH



KINGDOM FLOURISHING (GOD, SELF, NEIGHBOR)

MULTIPLYING  
SPIRITUALLY

HOLISTIC  
WORSHIP

WALKING WITH THE SPIRIT

United with  
Christ

ENGAGING  
MISSIONALLY

WALKING WITH THE SPIRIT

STEWARDSHIP  
RESOURCES

GOD-HONORING  
RELATIONSHIPS

EMBRACING  
A KINGDOM  
CALLING

DEMONSTRATING  
GODLY  
CHARACTER

KINGDOM FLOURISHING (GOD, SELF, NEIGHBOR)

## **2 Corinthians 3:18**

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

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## **Matthew 22:37-40**

37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

# Union with Christ



“...Union with Christ was once considered to be at the very heart of why the gospel is good news. Nothing is more basic or more central to the Christian life than union with Christ. And yet for many of us, union with Christ might feel vague and shadowy, not central or basic. This has very real consequences for our everyday life with God. As our understanding and appreciation of union with Christ has diminished, so too has our sense of what salvation means. We may know what God has saved us from, but have we lost sight of what God has saved us for?”

-Wilbourne, Rankin. Union with Christ: The Way to Know and Enjoy God, p. 15

# Union with Christ



Week 1 - Romans 6:1-11

Week 2 - Romans 6:12-23

Week 3 - Ephesians 2:1-10

Week 4 - Ephesians 2:11-22

Week 5 - Colossians 3:1-11

Week 6 - Colossians 3:21-17

# Write on Your Own

**What do you think it means to be “united to Christ”?**



# Union Language



**“United”**

**“In”**

**“With”**

**“Into”**

**“Just as”**

“In all his letters, the apostle Paul never once uses the word “Christian.” Rather, his most common descriptor for those who follow Christ is that they are “in Christ.” It can be easy to read over that little phrase. Yet it is impossible to overstate its significance for Paul.”

-Wilbourne, Rankin. Union with Christ: The Way to Know and Enjoy God, p. 29

# Romans 6 in Context



## The building argument of Romans

### ***Romans 1:16-17***

*16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

*17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”*

# Romans 6 in Context



**The building argument of Romans**  
**The concept of “sin” and “sins” in Romans**

# Romans 6 in Context



**The building argument of Romans**

**The concept of “sin” and “sins” in Romans**

**The immediate argument**

***Romans 5:19-21***

*19 For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. 20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21 so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

## **Romans 6:1-11**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

# Study and Discuss

**On Your Own:** Circle all of the “union” language you see in this passage.

**Discuss:** Compare what you found

# Union Language in Romans 6



- Continue **in sin** that grace may abound? (v.1)
- How can we who died to sin still live **in it**? (v.2)
- Baptized **into Christ Jesus** were baptized **into his death**? (v.3)
- Buried **with him** by baptism **into his death**. (v.4)
- Just as Christ was raised... we too** (v.4)
- United with him in a death like his... united with him in a resurrection like his** (v.5)
- Old self was crucified with him** (v.6)
- If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him** (v.8)
- So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus** (v.11)

## **Romans 6:1-11**

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# United to Christ



"We shall live with" is one word in the original and can be understood as "co-live". This follows the pattern of similar compound words that could be translated as "co-buried" (v. 4), "co-united" (v. 5), and "co-crucified" (v.6). Because of Christ's strong identification with sinners, even dying for the ungodly (4:5, 5:6, 8), God can fully reckon them as present with him throughout the cycle of Christ's saving work.

- Yarbrough, Robert W., ESV Expository Commentary: Romans, p.99

# United to Christ



## **Galatians 2:20**

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

## **Romans 6:1-11**

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# United to Christ



"The power of the gospel in practical living lies precisely here. Paul indicates this by affirming immediately that this baptism is "in order that... we too might walk in newness of life." "Walk" is a metaphor for daily living. "Too" reflects that Christ rose from the dead; therefore we also can capitalize on the death of our Adamic self and Christ's death in order to live a life fueled by Christ's resurrected existence."

- Yarbrough, Robert W., ESV Expository Commentary: Romans, p.98

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# Study and Discuss

**On Your Own:** Read 1 Corinthians 15:52-57. How does this passage help you understand the meaning of Romans 6:5-11?

**Discuss**

## **1 Corinthians 15:52-57**

52 For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

55 “O death, where is your victory?  
O death, where is your sting?”

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

# Discussion

**On Your Own:** In light of Romans 6:1-11, what would you add or change about your initial description of Union with Christ?

**Discuss**



# Reflection

If you applied verse 11: “So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” to your life this week, how might your life look different?

# Union with Christ in Romans 6



“But this also means that when Jesus was raised from death “by the glory of the Father,” a transformed way of living became possible for those who trust in him (Rom. 6:4). Although we will not experience bodily resurrection until Christ comes again, believers already, by virtue of their union with Christ, have been resurrected with him and possess the benefits of his new life (see also 8:10; Eph. 2:6; Col. 3:1). This co-resurrection with Christ has profound ethical implications. It is true that all of us fall short of God’s glory (Rom. 3:23), but it is also true that Christ’s resurrection brings change into our lives now, in this present life. Through faith, we are united with Christ both in his death and in his resurrection (6:5–6).

# Union with Christ in Romans 6



God’s goal in the gospel is for his people to “no longer be enslaved to sin” (v. 6). Jesus’ death, and our union with him there, breaks sin’s stranglehold (v. 7). Jesus’ resurrection life infuses the lives of believers both now and in the age to come (vv. 8–9). Jesus defeated death and is alive in God’s presence (v. 10). We as his followers can and should consider ourselves “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (v. 11).

-Robert W. Yarbrough, “Romans,” in *Gospel Transformation Bible: English Standard Version*, p. 1509.