

Romans 6:1-11

Our Faith...To Be Continued

Scripture: Romans 6:1-11

Memory Verse: Romans 6:11 “...consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” (ESV)

Lesson Focus: With us just having celebrated Easter weekend and the glorious death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, this passage is the perfect place to jump back into our study of Romans. We will teach the kids that our faith and trust in Jesus is not a one-time emotional event, but a way of living that is *to be continued* every day of our lives!

Activities and Crafts: Memory Verse Coloring Picture, Word Search of different terms from lesson, New Bring it Home Sheet for 3rd – 5th.
Craft for 1st & 2nd: Baptism Craft

Starter Activity: Favorite Sequels

Consider starting off the lesson getting the kids thinking about their favorite movie or TV show sequels. We will provide you with a printed image * of a “*To Be Continued...*” graphic that we’d encourage you to use to capture the kids’ attention here and throughout the lesson:

Q: Where do you usually see this “*To Be Continued...*” image?

A: TV shows, movies, etc.

Q: What does it mean?

A: It means you can expect a sequel that CONTINUES the story!

I’d like to know what some of your favorite TV show or movie sequels are!

Teachers: Consider taking a poll from the class on several of their favorites, put them on the whiteboard and have the kids vote for the best one for some fun. Below are some popular movie/show sequels that you can add into the mix in case kids aren’t coming up with their own ideas:

Frozen 2, Mandalorian Season 2 *, Finding Dory, Incredibles 2, Kung Fu Panda 2

We just celebrated Easter last weekend, the greatest victory in the history of the whole world. * Jesus’s resurrection was His victory over sin and death which He shares with all who trust in Him by faith as we have been learning about in the book of Romans. As we get back into Romans today, we are going to learn that our faith and trust in Jesus, just like a movie sequel, is also “*To Be Continued...*”! *

Bible Study:

Romans 6:1a: Our passage starts off with an important question that refers back to the good news of the gospel that we have been learning about in these first five chapters of Romans. To summarize, we have learned that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ's death/resurrection. * Through faith our sins are forgiven and believers then become children of God! Woohoo! *

Romans 6:1b: But does that mean that Christians are given freedom to sin and just do whatever they want? (**Teachers:** This is an important question! Since Romans 1-5 clearly taught our works don't save us, WHY NOT just sin and do whatever you want? Before answering the question in the next verse, have the kids chew on this a little bit)

Romans 6:2a: ABSOUTELY NOT! * Paul could not answer this anymore strongly or intensely. Even just the thought of trampling on God's love and grace as if it gives us a license to sin should be unthinkable to Christians! * Why?

Romans 6:2b: Because followers of Jesus are dead to sin and alive to God. Their faith and trust in God * is...*to be continued!* * (**Teachers:** Consider referring back to the image throughout the lesson to reinforce this point!)

Romans 6:3-4: Paul refers now to baptism to make this point. Baptism is something beautiful that He told all of His followers to do to show the world that they were indeed His! (**Teachers:** Either consider having some discussion like below or describe baptism with a small character figure and a bin of water)

Q: How many of you have been baptized before? Tell us what happened!

A1: First you were completely dunked into the water. Just like Jesus died on the cross and was buried, this pictures how you are dead to sin and living against what God wants.

A2: Then you come out of the water and everyone celebrates! Just like Jesus rose from the dead, this pictures your new life that is devoted to following Jesus all of your days. *

Baptism doesn't save you, but it is an important step of obedience for all believers. * Plus, it helps you remember that you belong to Jesus now and that your faith/trust in Him is...*to be continued!* If you are a believer in Jesus and you want to get baptized, talk to your parents about this!

Romans 6:5: Paul describes how believers are *united* with Jesus and His death & resurrection.

Q: What does it mean to be *united* with someone?

A: There is agreement and harmony, no fighting! In Romans 5 we learned about how before believers were saved, we were at WAR with God because of our sin. But the moment we first surrendered and believed, that war ended and now we are at peace with God! (**Romans 5:1**)

But guess what Christian: While that war against God has ended, a new war has started!

Romans 6:6: We are now to be at WAR with sin!

Q: How many of you have ever played the “War” card game? How does that game work?

Teachers: Consider having a few small decks of cards ready to play “War”, but with a twist. Invite a volunteer up to play a game of “War” against “SIN”. Put a sign on a chair labeled “SIN” and put a deck of higher cards (6-8s) face down in front of the chair. Then give the volunteer a deck of lower cards (2-5s) and flip cards over simultaneously. Notice the kid will always lose. Point out how this illustrates everyone’s life apart from Jesus. For as it says in **Romans 6:6**, before Jesus we were slaves to sin! *

Romans 6:7: But when we believed in Jesus and died to our sin, we were set free! In fact, the Bible says elsewhere we were given the Holy Spirit who now helps us WIN this war! **Teachers:** Now put (9-10s) on top of the kids deck and continue the game. Notice now the kid wins! This is what happens when we believe! We now have the weapons and power to WIN the battle against sin!

This doesn’t mean Christians never sin. While Christians can now win a battle that they could never win before, they still make mistakes and fall into sin. The difference now is that when Christians realize they have sinned, they turn away from it, apologize for it, and even hate it! * **Teachers:** To wrap up the illustration mix the high and low cards of the kid’s deck together. But now instead of blindly drawing, point out how the kid can CHOOSE which card he will play!

The Bible elsewhere urges believers to “*fight the good fight of faith*” against sin. (**1 Timothy 6:12a**) And this fight of faith is...*to be continued!*

Q: What are some ways that we can fight (or play the *high* cards)? A: Praying, trusting, serving, reading our Bibles, growing in our love for Jesus, loving what He loves and hating what He hates.

Romans 6:8-10: What did we celebrate last week? Easter Sunday where Jesus rose from the dead. These verses say that the resurrection proves that death no longer has dominion or control over Jesus. If Jesus had stayed dead, everyone would still be stuck with only the *low* cards! * But He is risen indeed, and in His power, Christians are to *fight that good fight of faith!*

Romans 6:11: And so just like Jesus, Christians are to consider themselves dead to sin and alive to God. There should be a growing “family resemblance” that all Christians are to have with their Savior! We become more and more like Jesus throughout our lives! *

Key Point: This brings us right back to where we started. We began talking about sequels and how they continue the story. Each one of our lives has a sequel as well.
- If we belong to Jesus, where will our sequel be? In heaven with Him forever!
- If we don’t belong to Jesus, where will our sequel be? In hell away from Him forever!

Believers: Fight that good fight of faith. Play those *high* cards! Your faith in Jesus is not a one-time event but it...*is to be continued!* *

Unbelievers: Begin the life of faith today! It begins and ends with faith/trust in Jesus!

BRING IT HOME

Read Romans 6:1-2
Does God's grace
give us a license to
sin?

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Challenge:
What does baptism
symbolize?

Read Romans 6:11
What does it mean
to be "dead to sin"?

