



## Sermon Discussion Questions

### "Making the Most of Your New Year"

Romans 6:1-14

January 1, 2017

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Openers:

What is one thing you have given up, quit, or let go of, that you are so glad you did?

Do you have a New Year's tradition and if so, what is it?

Questions: [The following questions are meant to supplement the sermon, to offer further points of interaction with the selected text. Feel free to ask your group your own questions regarding the sermon or text.]

1. What answer does Paul give to the question he raises in 6:1 (v 2)?
2. What does Paul assume that all Christians should know (v 3)?
3. For what reason have we been buried with Christ through baptism into death (v 4)?
4. List at least two ways Paul describes us before we were Christians (v 6).
5. Death used to be our master. Who is our master now (vv 8-10)?

What is the practical outworking of this spiritual experience of the exchange of masters (v 12)?

6. Why does Paul say that sin shall not be master over us (v 14)?

Application:

7. Rephrase verse 1 into your own words. Have you ever heard anyone confuse the meaning of this verse -- taking it as a kind of permission to sin?
8. What is at least one change or upgrade you might desire to take place in your life because of this passage? Or, how might this passage inspire you?
9. What could your prayer to God sound like when you face temptation?

Take some time to pray together. Ask God to illuminate anew any negative temptation in your life. Pray that he will put that temptation into perspective, and inspire you anew in *his* ways, that you may start this new year *encouraged* in these ways.

\*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).