



## LifeGroup Discussion Guide

### Dead or Alive?

*Remember this page is designed to begin a discussion with your LifeGroup. It is not comprehensive. Allow the following questions to spur on deeper and further conversation, study, and discussion.*

Our study this Sunday sought to balance the disciple's understanding of how we are "dead to sin" and "alive to God". The fact of this new life in Jesus means we learn to see the world around us, ourselves, and our sin in a new light. Go around and share an example of one way that your eyes have been opened to see sin differently since you've been born again?

We learned that "*sin isn't dead to us*" - it is very much alive and actively seeking our allegiance. **READ: Ephesians 2:1-5.** How does the Apostle Paul characterize the "*old self*" in contrast with the "*new*"? We learned on Sunday about the "*Cone Snail*" - can you give some examples on how "*gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature*" is like a kind of pleasure-drug? How is "*sin*" similar in its effects to a neurotoxin? How does it entrap and ensnare us without our being aware?

**READ: Romans 6:5-11.** How does Paul establish the fact that Jesus' death affords us the promise of resurrection and new life? Look closely at **verses 10-11**; how does Paul relate Jesus' death, and our unity with Him, as a grounding for our understanding of being "*dead to sin*"? If you can remember the "*brownie*" illustration, what was it that changed the kid's minds about the brownies? How is our unity with Jesus changing our minds? **READ: 1 John 3:4-9.** Who does John attribute our awareness of sin to [HINT: look for the illustration in **verse 9**]?

**READ: Romans 12:1-2.** What part of our nature is being addressed in **vs 2** that makes us aware and turns us away from "*conformity to the pattern of this world*"?

**READ: Romans 6:11-14** - We gave 3 steps of application on Sunday:

1. Give your life to God through Jesus
2. Give your mind to God as "*dead to sin*" and "*alive to God*"
3. Give your body to God as an instrument of righteousness

One by one, go through each of these and discuss how someone could apply these to their life? What is difficult about each one? Which of the 3 do you think is the hardest and why? Give "*real world*" examples for #3, and share what you are doing day by day to offer your bodies in use of righteousness?