

THE GOSPEL IS LIFE

ROMANS 7:1-6 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
JANUARY 31, 2021



I have been declared dead to the law and alive to Christ (7:1-3), and so, my identity is now confirmed (7:4a), and Christ's resurrection power flows within me (7:4b), which is producing God-honouring results (7:4c) that are new every single day (7:5-6).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think about your identity from a community point of view. How do you confirm who you are to others?
2. *We often produce authorized documents like a vehicle license, health card, a passport, or a birth certificate to confirm our identity. In less official situations, we may rely on a friend's testimony to affirm we are who we claim to be. How does God's Word act like both an authorized document and the testimony of one who knows us to verify our identity?*
3. What is an essential truth about your new identity in Christ that changes the way you approach life's struggles with sin, evil, and disappointment? *(If you can, write down a verse reference that affirms your new identity here.)*
4. Does Paul's illustration of the previously married woman teach help you understand your new situation in Christ in a better way? What does the analogy intend to clarify?

5. *Paul's illustration talks about a husband's death as the event that legally enabled his wife to pursue a new relationship. When he relates the example to his readers, he says, "likewise you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another..." (Romans 7:4). Why does his new focus include the believer's death to the law and not only Christ's death on the cross?*

6. *Claiming your identity in Christ has implications. First of all, you belong to him and live (potentially) in his resurrection power. How does (or should) his power affect your behaviour related to studying his Word, participating in worship, and giving generously?*

7. *Romans 7:6 mentions that we "...serve in the new way of the Spirit and not the old way of the written code." What is a "new way" of the Spirit you are currently trying to develop in your life? Are there any "old way" mindsets that you must let go of as you seek to live in a new way?*