

# Authentic Discipleship

## #4 -What You Died To

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### Read Chapter #4 – “What You Died To” (pages 45-54) before meeting.

“For God to restore humanity to its original purpose, that old man had to die. Through His kindness, God accomplished that for us on the cross of Christ. In this chapter, we will detail some of the benefits of the fact that our old man died. But before we do, we must establish this one fact: we all died in Christ.”<sup>1</sup>

#### Read:

- 2 Corinthians 5:14, Colossians 3:3, Romans 6:3, Romans 7:4
- 2 Corinthians 5:7-18

“That’s good news. Previously, *I was trying* to get rid of the old and *I was trying* to make the new come. What a trap! In the unseen and eternal, Paul is telling us “When Jesus died, you were in Him, and you died too. The old spirit is gone, the new spirit is come, and you are a new creation in Jesus Christ.”<sup>2</sup>

#### Group Questions and Discussion:

1. What are some aspects of the old man?
2. Though Christ died for all, what do we as individuals have to do to experience this?
3. How is a creation different from a product? From what does one make a creation? How does this make a difference in how we look at and accept ourselves?

#### Read:

- Romans 7:13 – 8:1

#### Small Groups (max 2-3) Questions:

1. If I have died to sin, why am I still tempted to sin? Why do I have this pull within me toward sin?
2. What is going on when a person hears that grace is a license to sin?

#### Whole Group:

“Why, then, do we still sin? Because as long as we remain in our unredeemed earthly bodies we still have ‘flesh,’ which is a propensity to seek life through our own resources, apart from God. Flesh is not who we truly are (Romans 7:13-23), but it remains temporarily with us, and is something we must deal with. And, as the Scriptures make clear, we are accountable to God for the choices we make: whether to walk in dependence on God (‘by the Spirit’) or dependence upon ourselves (‘by the flesh’). When a Christian sins (‘living according to the flesh’) he is going against his true nature, which is created in the likeness of God (Ephesians 4:24). It is precisely because of this fact that sin is opposed to the true nature of a believer, that Paul reacts so vehemently against the notion that a Christian would continue to sin (Romans 6:1-2).”<sup>3</sup>

1. What are the three things we died to?
2. How can a person keep from knowing their union with Christ? What might help one to learn it?

(over)

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<sup>1</sup> Dan Stone and David Gregory, *The Rest of the Gospel, When the Partial Gospel Has Worn You Out* (Eugene, Harvest House Publishers, 2000), 46.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 47.

<sup>3</sup> John E. Best, Linda Karpyak and Greg Smith, *Resolving Misunderstandings Of The Exchanged Life* (Garland, Abundant Living Resources), Chapters 5 and 6.

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“If your death with Christ hasn’t become an experiential reality to you yet, I encourage you to ask the Father to make it a reality: ‘Lord, I want to know. I want to know and experience the truth that I died with Christ. Reveal that to me and make it real in my life.’

He will.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Dan Stone and David Gregory, *The Rest of the Gospel, When the Partial Gospel Has Worn You Out* (Eugene, Harvest House Publishers, 2000), 54.