

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FEB 7, 2021 // BREATHING UNDERWATER



SEARCH AND RESCUE

Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs continued in our *Breathing Underwater* series, focusing on letting God search us and point out weak points that need attention.

This means getting honest with God, and then sitting and listening while he gets honest with us. After getting honest with God, in order to keep us accountable, we need to get honest with another person. Find someone who is trustworthy, has your best interest at heart, and who is not a sympathizer who will let you continue in dangerous or destructive behaviors. Paul tells us in Romans 6 that Jesus broke the power sin has over our lives, and we have the power to determine what shapes our lives. This may mean eliminating places you can visit (including online), people you can associate with, or living the way our society deems normal or okay. As followers of Jesus, we are called to let him shape our lives and to use our lives as walking worship to bring him glory.

SCRIPTURES:

Search me O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. – Psalm 139:23-24 NIV

Whoever conceals his sin does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy. – Proverbs 28:13 NIV

Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life. – Proverbs 19:20 NLT

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. – Psalm 51:9 NIV

But if we confess our sins to Him, He can be depended on to forgive us and cleanse us from every wrong. – 1 John 1:9 TLB

Romans 6:1-14 NLT —

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you from Marty's message?
2. Read Psalm 139:23-24. What does it mean for God to search your heart? What are things that might be pointed out by this type of reflection? (You don't have to get personal at this point, just consider different motivations, attitudes, behaviors, that might be concealed within someone.)
3. Read Proverbs 28:13, 19:20, Psalm 51:9, and 1 John 1:9. What are the pros of revealing sins/transgressions? What happens when we don't reveal and confess what's in our hearts?
4. Read Romans 6:1-14. What does Paul say about living under the freedom of God's grace?
5. If you are comfortable in your group, or can break off into partners of accountability, do so and talk about those things you need to address. If this isn't the place for you to talk about these things, contemplate who you might meet with—a counselor, a trusted friend, etc.
6. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Thank God for the forgiveness and mercy he holds for you as opposed to drenching you in guilt and shame. Ask him for the courage to be honest, with yourself and him, about those areas you need to address. Pray for the right accountability partner in your journey through confession and living right with God.

Crossings has pastors and resources available if you are suffering from depression*.

[LIFECARE: SUPPORT AND RECOVERY](https://lifecare.crossings.church): lifecare.crossings.church

[CROSSINGS.CHURCH](https://crossings.church)

**Remember that oftentimes a medical professional is part of the healing process as well.*