

2 Corinthians 3:6-11 (NLT) - ⁶He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit. The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life.

⁷The old way, with laws etched in stone, led to death, though it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses' face. For his face shone with the glory of God, even though the brightness was already fading away. ⁸Shouldn't we expect far greater glory under the new way, now that the Holy Spirit is giving life? ⁹If the old way, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new way, which makes us right with God! ¹⁰In fact, that first glory was not glorious at all compared with the overwhelming glory of the new way. ¹¹So if the old way, which has been replaced, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new, which remains forever!

Romans 5:12-21 (NLT) - ¹²When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. ¹³Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break. ¹⁴Still, everyone died—from the time of Adam to the time of Moses—even those who did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did. Now Adam is a symbol, a representation of Christ, who was yet to come. ¹⁵But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁶And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. ¹⁹Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

²⁰God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. ²¹So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus finished our story, so we could enter His.

Study Guide

1. This last Sunday we spoke about the New Covenant and that Jesus finished our story, so we could enter his. As you think about that, what comes to mind? What does being a part of the New Covenant mean to you?
2. One of the most formative concepts for our Christian growth and life is our understanding of the New Covenant, what it means for our lives today and just how much it changed things. Take some time to read Hebrews 9 together.
3. As you read that, what is the contrast you see between the New and the Old Covenant? What difference does living under the sacrifice of Christ make in your life? What would it have felt like to live under the Old Covenant?
4. As we consider what it means to live under the covering of the perfect sacrifice of Jesus, sometimes it can be hard to live like that is true. Sometimes we can feel a pull to returning to an Old Covenant style. To work our way into salvation. To earn our spot with God. How have you experienced this? It is easy to remember, or challenging? What helps you to remind yourself that you are under the New Covenant?
5. Take some time to pray for each other, specifically that we would live as those covered by the blood of Christ.