

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – May 21, 2023**

**Theme: The Power of God at work in us    Topic: Death Through Adam; Life Through Christ**

**Main Text: Romans 5:12-21**

**Key verse: Romans 5:19** – “For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous” (NKJV)

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**INTRODUCTION:** Our journey this quarter brings us to an important topic which affects how one responds to God’s gift of salvation through Christ. There are two aspects to this all-important issue – the bad news and the good news. The bad news is that through Adam, every human ever born has God’s sentence of death. According to Scripture, “*But from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, death ruled over all human beings, even over those who did not sin in the same way that Adam did when he disobeyed God’s command.*” (Romans 5:14 GNT). The good news, on the other hand, of this all-important argument is that forgiveness of sin and acceptance to God is made possible through one person - Jesus Christ. Understanding today’s topic is crucial to appreciating discussions which follow in Chapters 6-8, on sanctification and living a life of holiness and freedom from sin.

1. **Read Romans 5:12-21 (a) What comparison and contrast does the passage make between Adam and Jesus Christ and of what significance are the similarities and contrasts to the Christian? (b) Romans 5:14 says that ‘... Adam is a type of Him (Christ) who was to come [but in reverse.]’ (AMP). How does this help you understand how Jesus’ death on the cross secured salvation for mankind, and the reason every human being needs a Savior? (c) How would you use the truth in (1b) to explain Romans 6:23 to an unbeliever or young Christian?**

Indeed, sin and its death penalty came to us because of Adam’s genes in us, not because of any acts of disobedience to any commands of God (Romans 5:14). The Jews and other religions have struggled to grasp the idea that something someone else did is what is going to make them right with God. No wonder man-made religion has preferred to believe that, if there is going to be any getting right with God, it must be the result of something that they do. Aided by the Mosaic Law many (including believers today) are stuck in the belief that forgiveness of sin, acceptance by God and right standing before God is attainable only to those who reach a certain level of spiritual achievement - some level of virtue, goodness, or by some religious ritual and ceremony in which they engage. This is even further entrenched when one accepts the fact that we all became tainted by Adam’s one action. But God comes along to say, “*But the gift is not like the trespass.*” (Romans 5:15 NIV). And we must get a good grip on this truth if we are to fully enjoy God’s grace to us through Christ.

2. **Read Romans 5:15-19. (a) How is God’s grace to us through Christ different from death through Adam? (b) ‘Death through Adam, and life through Christ’ means that every person you meet is either in Adam or in Christ. Each position is different and has eternal consequences. Let participants identify the differences, and practical implications for both the believer and unbelievers. (c) What practical steps should believers take because of the implications for the unbelievers?**

Adam and Christ; bad news and good news. Yet that is not all. As one Bible commentary puts it, ‘In one sense Adam’s sin and Christ’s obedience are comparable. But in another sense, they are very different: For one, we are saved by works—just not our own. We are saved by the works of Christ. Then there is also the matter of choice. In the case of Adam’s sin being inputted to us, we had no choice. But the forgiveness and righteousness which Christ brings requires that one chooses to accept the gift or reject it. Meaning that only those who respond in faith eternally benefit from Christ’s act of obedience. And so, we must be earnest in telling this good news about Christ to as many as possible because Christ offers much more than Adam’s sin took away (Romans 5:15, 17).

3. **Read Romans 5:15-17; Ephesians 1:7-8 (a) What sense do you get from these verses concerning how Christ’s gift of life compares with Adam’s sin? (b) Since Adam’s sin is the root of the problem of humanity, and Christ is more than the solution, what is the practical implication as we search for a solution to the world’s problems? (c) Discuss the implication of this for us as individuals, and as a Church for the spread of the gospel?**

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**Prayer:** God Almighty, thank You for accomplishing for us in Christ, much more than we lost through Adam’s sin. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.