

Session 8: Romans 5:12–21  
Experiencing the Eternal Now

**Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do? What was the result?**

Read Romans 5:12–21.

**What question does J.D. say he gets asked a lot?**

**How does J.D. sum up the entire storyline of the Bible?**

**What question does J.D. say is the only one that really matters in the end?**

**What one man is Paul referring to? How did sin enter the world through this one man?**

**Have you ever heard the term "original sin"? Based on this passage, how would you define original sin?**

**How does our sin ratify, or agree with, Adam's choice in the Garden of Eden? In your life, how have you proven that, like Adam, you would have given in to temptation in the garden, if given the chance?**

**What was J.D.'s reasoning that led to his conclusion? Do you agree or disagree? Why?**

**What are some of the words Paul uses to compare the gift of God to what he calls "the trespass"? In what ways does Paul show us that God's grace is more powerful than the result of our sin?**

**Why do you think we have to remind ourselves of grace so often in the face of our sin?**

**When we share the gospel with others, why is it important for us to speak about where "life in Adam" leads and where "life in Christ" leads?**

**How can we share the truth that life in Adam—a life of sin—leads to condemnation with sensitivity, knowing that it may not be received charitably?**

**When you hear the phrase "overflow of grace," what images come to mind? What does it mean that Jesus is so full of grace that it "overflows to the many" (v. 15)?**

**In what ways is grace overflowing through you?**

**In what ways has Jesus acted on our behalf?**

**In what way does the phrase, "Jesus in my place," shape your understanding of God's love for you?**

**What thoughts and misconceptions have led you to believe that Jesus's grace isn't enough for you?**

**What difference do you think it could make in your life to believe that grace multiplies even more than your sin?**

**What practical things could you do to remember that you belong to the second Adam, Jesus Christ?**

**Since you belong to Jesus Christ, what can you do to enjoy the eternal life he's given you today?**

### **Go Deeper**

#### *1. Original Sin*

**What words would you use to define human nature?**

Read Romans 5:12–21; Psalm 51:5; Job 14:1–4.

**When combined, how do all these passages of Scripture present the concept of original sin?**

**How does Romans 5:12–21 help make sense of David's words in Psalm 51 and Job's in Job 14?**

**In what ways does the current state of the world serve to verify the truth of the doctrine of original sin?**

**How has your behavior validated the doctrine of original sin?**

**What changes have you noticed in your attitudes and behaviors since becoming a Christian?**

**How should the knowledge that you've been given eternal life shape your day-to-day life now?**

#### *2. What Is Typology?*

Read Romans 5:14.

**In what other ways did Adam and Jesus differ?**

**Why is it important to recognize that the word "type" doesn't mean both parties correspond perfectly with one another?**

**In what ways is Jesus better than all the "types" we might encounter in the Bible?**

#### *3. Eternal Life*

Read Romans 5:20–21.

**When you hear "eternal life," what ideas come to mind for you?**

Read John 17:1–3.

**How does Jesus define eternal life in this passage? How does Jesus's understanding of eternal life compare to what you shared in the question above?**

**Why would Jesus equate eternal life with knowing God?**

**How can you enjoy the eternal life God has given you through Christ today?**