# New Creation for a New Year Romans 6:1–14

#### **Opening Thought**

At the start of a new year, many people think about change — habits, priorities, hopes for the future. This study explores where real, lasting change comes from according to Romans 6.

#### 1. Our Desire for Change

At the start of a new year, what kinds of changes do people usually hope for or work towards? Why do you think this longing for change is so universal?

#### 2. Better Behaviour or New Life? (Romans 6:1-2)

Why is it easy for Christians to slip into "trying harder" rather than trusting what God has already done? How does Paul challenge that way of thinking in these verses?

#### 3. United With Christ (Romans 6:3-7)

According to these verses, what has already happened to someone who is "in Christ"? Which phrase or idea stands out most to you — and why?

#### 4. When Faith Feels Hard (Psalm 139:1-4)

Christians can feel tired, broken, doubtful, or hurt. Why do you think these struggles are often hard to talk about in church? How does the truth of being fully known and fully loved by God speak into these experiences?

## 5. Living From Who You Already Are (Romans 6:11)

What do you think it means, in everyday life, to "count yourself dead to sin but alive to God"? How is this different from pretending, positive thinking, or aiming for perfection?

### 6. Looking Forward

As you look ahead to this year, where are you most tempted to place your hope — in effort, discipline, or circumstances? What might it look like to live more intentionally from your identity in Christ?