**“By One Man Death, By Another Life!”**

**(Romans 5:12-17)**

**All human history can be boiled down to the singular acts of two men –**

**Adam and Jesus. In today’s text Paul draws a contrast between these men**

**and invites us to grow in wisdom as we realize that mankind was…**

 **I. Ruined by the Selfish Act of Adam (12-14)**

* **The Entrance of Sin (12)**

 *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and*

 *so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

* **The Evidence of Sin (13-14)**

 *“Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had*

 *not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression…”*

**II. Rescued by the Selfless Act of Christ (15-17)**

* **The Character of Christ’s Work is Superior (15)**

 *“…much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace… hath abounded unto*

 *many.”*

* **The Consequence of Christ’s Work is Superior (16)**

 *“…but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.”*

* **The Conquest of Christ’s Work is Superior (17)**

*“…much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of*

*righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.”*

**“By One Man Death, By Another Life!”**

**(Romans 5:12-17)**

 **Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Share something from Sunday’s study that was the most interesting or**

 **challenging to you or that raised a question.**

**2. Why was Adam’s act judged so harshly by God when all he did was eat**

 **a piece of fruit? What does this tell us about God’s character, and how**

 **we should view sin? Is it fair that we suffer the consequences of Adam’s**

 **sin? Why is this doctrine important?**

**3. What does the phrase “death reigned from Adam to Moses” mean in**

 **Romans 5:14? Is death still reigning today? How should Hebrews 9:27**

 **motivate us?**

**4. Share two or three ways that the death of Christ is GREATER than the**

 **sinful choice of Adam. How does this passage cause you to appreciate**

 **Christ’s death even more?**

**5. Discuss what it means to “reign in life” (Romans 5:17) through Jesus**

 **Christ. How does this apply to your daily life now?**

**For Small Group Prayer**

**Each person share the name of someone you know who has not yet received**

**God’s gift of salvation from sin. Pray for each of these.**

**Digging Deeper**

**Read through Genesis 5:5-31 underlining each time the phrase “and he died” appears.** **In what sense does sin bring death? Consider also Genesis 2:16-17, Romans 6:23 and Revelation 20:14-15.**

**Carefully read 1 Corinthians 15:22, 45-50. How does this passage add to your understanding of Romans 5:12-17? How does it give us hope?**

**How do we know that we have a sinful nature according to Psalm 51:5; 58:3; Jeremiah 17:9 and Ephesians.2:1-3? Prayerfully evaluate some ways that your sinful/selfish nature tends to show up in your life. Ask God for help with the change and growth that is needed.**

**For next week: Read Romans 5:12-21 a few times, and then focus more closely on verses 18-21. Try to write out these 4 verses in your own words.**