



## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families For the week of March 26, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Warm Up

- What is freedom?
- What are the characteristics of a free person?

### Romans 6:15-7:6

### *The Wages of Sin & The Gift of God*

Last week, Paul addressed the criticism that the message that we are “saved by grace alone” might leave us without incentive or power to change ([Romans 6:1](#)). Instead, he showed that the Gospel gives us both knowledge and power to change our character and behavior ([Romans 6:2-14](#)).

This week, Paul addresses the question: If we are “not under the law”, does that mean we are free to live in any way we choose?

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<sup>6:15</sup> What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup> and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

- What is Paul’s argument against the notion that Christians are free to sin? (16-18)
- Since we must either be a slave of sin, or a servant of God (16), Paul compares the two kinds of service. What comparison does he make in this section? (17-18)

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<sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

- How does each kind of service develop? (19)
- The Gospel declares that we are free from sin (18-19). What kinds of things mark this kind of freedom in the life of the Christian?

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<sup>20</sup> For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- How does each kind of service end? (20-23)
- Can you share a time the Spirit of God led you to realize you sin was only producing death?
- Can you share a time the Spirit of God led you to repentance and it began to produce life?

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<sup>7:1</sup> Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup> For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup> Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup> Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup> For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

- **Summarize Paul's argument in this section against the notion that Christians are free to sin. (1-6)**
- **Since we are either married to the Law, or married to Christ, no one is free. Christians are "dead to the law" to "bear fruit for God" (4). What does it mean to be dead to the law?**
- **How does "being released from the Law" free you to "serve in the new way of the Spirit"? (6)**
- **A follower of Christ undergoes a complete change in relationship and allegiance. What is one way the Jesus Christ has set you free for participation in His Kingdom these days?**
- **Pray together in light of this week's passage.**

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,  
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