



❧ Week 3 ❧

This weeks focus scripture: Romans 6:15-23

This weeks reading challenge:

- It's been a while, so your BIG challenge this week is to re-read ALL of Romans up through the end of chapter six!
- Read Romans 6:15-23, several times.

This weeks memory challenge: Romans 6:23. This verse has been called “the gospel in a sentence”, and is one of the most memorized verses in all of Romans. Don't leave home without it!

❧ Study and Reflection ❧

Day 1: Read verse 14-15.

If we hear the phrase “you are not under law, but under grace”, and we see that as an excuse to sin or be disobedient to God, what does this say about our relationship with Christ? Why is our relationship with Jesus the most important thing in experiencing freedom and fullness in life?

Think of an area of struggle in your life, be it a specific moral sin issue, passivity, fear, our even refusal to obey God when He calls you to express his love and goodness. What is the greater power to become free or obedient in this issue? Is it greater knowledge or conviction of what the ‘law’ says is the right thing to do? Or, is it a greater trust and dependence in your love relationship with Jesus? What does this look like in your life, regarding this specific issue?

Day 2: Read verse 16-18

Paul states that every human, apart from a relationship with Christ, is a ‘slave to sin’. What do you think this means? What is the *core attribute* of being a ‘slave to sin’? What did this look like in your life prior to becoming a believer, and do you at times live in this still today? What is the result when we live this way?

Read verse 17. Paul here gives three attributes of a spiritually healthy follower of Christ. What are these, and how do these look in your life?

Read verse 18 (but fully taking into account all of chapter six!). What does it mean to be a 'slave to righteousness?' As above, what is the *core attribute* of this way of living? We may need to think deeper here than our initial concept of being a 'slave'. What does this look like in your life?

Day 3: Meditate on verses 19-23

What does it mean to 'offer ourselves' to a master or influence in life? In what ways (ways of thinking, feeling, and acting) do we 'offer ourselves' to sin? What will be the result of this over time? Can you identify ways you have seen this play out in your life or the lives of people around you?

How do we 'offer ourselves' to God? Be specific! What does this look like, each day, in our lives as they really are? What is the result of this over time?

In verse 23, what is the great distinction between the nature of sin, and the nature of God's grace?