



The Heart of the Matter

April 25, 2021

Romans 6:15-23 (ESV)

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ 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? ¹⁷ 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, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ 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. ²² 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. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

MESSAGE NOTES

What could happen if we just abolished God's Law?
Could we just do what we want?
v. 15...a HARD NO

1. We're all SLAVES.

v. 19 "in human terms"

2. We have NEW FREEDOM.

v. 22 "have been set free"

Negative freedom = freedom from (autonomy)

Positive freedom = freedom for

a. It has a NEW FRAMEWORK

- A new Master (v.22)
- A new outcome (vv.21-22)
- A new standard (v.17)

b. It has a NEW FOCUS

v. 17 "obedient from the heart"
From your heart to your habits.
See Ezekiel 11:19-20

c. It has a NEW FUEL.

v. 15 "under grace"
v. 23 "free gift"

2 Corinthians 5:14

Will you give him your heart?

GOING DEEPER

We want to encourage you to invest more time into the book of Romans. Like we said, we won't be looking at EVERYTHING in Romans but we will be looking at ENOUGH. Here are some ways for you to go deeper into Romans:

Pray about what you learned today.

If God spoke to you today, find a quiet space and take the time to respond to God in prayer.

Huddle up with some friends.

Join with one of our Home Groups that is going through Romans. Email micah@thecrosspointchurch.ca to learn how to join a group.

Do a deeper Bible Study.

You can access our Home Group study for the week at thecrosspointchurch.ca/notes. Do the "Deeper in the Word" session for yourself.

Read through the entire book of Romans.

In fact, we encourage you to do it a few times, in different translations. Not sure what translations to use? Try the NIV, ESV, NLT, NASB, and The Message. If you need more translations of the Bible you can access them [here](#).

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+1&version=ESV>

Watch the Bible Project's "Romans" video on YouTube.

Check out the first of two videos [here](#).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ej_6dVdJSIU

Read "Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part One" by N.T. Wright as you go through the series.

You can order a copy [here](#).

https://www.amazon.ca/Paul-Everyone-Romans-Pt-1/dp/0664227996/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=paul+for+everyone%3A+romans+part+one&qid=1610250858&sr=8-1

Take the free Biblical Training online course with biblical scholar Douglas Moo.

Sign up for the course [here](#).

https://www.biblicaltraining.org/romans/douglas_moo

Read and pray through Romans in 31 days.

These don't need to be consecutive days! You can find a helpful guide [here](#).

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/an-easy-and-powerful-31-day-plan-to-pray-through-romans.html>