

December 1/2, 2012

The Gospel Story: Enslaved To God

A Study of Romans

Romans 6:12-23

Pastor Bryan Clark

Opening Discussion

1. How does our culture define freedom? Are people really free? What's the evidence to support your conclusion?
2. Is it true that the more rules we have the better our behavior will be? Why or why not?
3. If we all ultimately live what we believe, what is the best way to change bad behavior?

Bible Study

1. Review Romans 6:10, 11. What do we need to "know" from Romans 6:1-11?
2. Read Romans 6:12-19. "Therefore" as a result of what's true, how should we live as those alive in Christ?
3. What does Paul mean by the promise in verse 14, "For sin shall not be master over you"? (notice that's future tense)
4. Paul states that sin shall not be master over you "for" you are not under law but under grace. Review what Paul said about the law in 3:19, 20. When Christians are focused on "the law" or legalism, what are you ultimately focused on? Does this make us sin more or less? Why? Can this approach ever lead to freedom? Why or why not?

5. What does it mean to be “obedient from the heart”? Is that the same as being a slave to righteousness? How is this approach different from legalism? What is the focus now? Does this approach lead to freedom or bondage? Why?
6. Read Romans 6:20-23. What does Paul mean when he says we were, “free in regard to righteousness” when we were slaves to sin? What did this lead to?
7. Paul states, “But now...” in verse 22. But now what? What is the result?
8. Rewrite 6:23 in your own words.

Application

1. Would you say your Christian life reflects the belief that you are under grace or under law? Why?
2. At this point in your Christian walk are you enslaved to sin or enslaved to obedience from the heart? Based on Romans 6, what is the best thing we can do to help other Christians who seem to be enslaved to sin?
3. How should you live each day as a Christian having been freed from slavery to sin?