



## Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

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# Slave

June 26, 2011

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### SCRIPTURE

#### Romans 6:5-12

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,<sup>[a]</sup> that we should no longer be slaves to sin— <sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

<sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

<sup>11</sup> In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

#### Romans 6:15-23

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. <sup>18</sup> You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

<sup>19</sup> I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. <sup>20</sup> When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. <sup>21</sup> What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in<sup>[a]</sup> Christ Jesus our Lord.

### ENGAGE

Read the above scripture aloud. Do you view yourself as a "slave" of God? In what ways are you a slave to God?

## DISCUSS

As Christians we are set free from the punishment of sin by Grace, but unfortunately we are not free from the sin itself—that is for us to turn away from. What sins do you struggle with the most? What sins do you struggle with the least?

Sin is everywhere and usually more pronounced when it happens in the “church.” Do you feel that sin is running rampant in the church today? What sins do you think are the most destructive to the body of Christ when committed by fellow church members?

When you accepted Christ as your savior, what sins did you immediately give up or become less frequent at committing?

What steps does it take to turn from slaves of sin in our lives and become slaves of righteousness?

From the viewpoint of God as our Master and we are the slaves, what commands has He given us to perform as slaves of righteousness? Do you go throughout life viewing these as suggestions that we should do as Christians or more like the commands they are?

## YOUR NEXT STEP

If you have never accepted the Lord as your Savior that is your first step. If you have, evaluate your walk with Christ and make a list of the sins you struggle with. Make notes as to what can be done to turn from them. Look for ways to serve Christ and not man and become a slave of righteousness.

## CHILDREN’S TIME

Review the passage above and answer any questions they might have. Ask them to define what a slave is. You may get lots of different definitions, some good some bad. In essence, a slave is someone who is controlled by another person or thing.

Ask them to define sin and discuss what sins they may struggle with or see around them in everyday life. Explain that everyone sins and falls short of the Glory of God, but when all we do is sin, we are a slave to it because it is controlling our actions and thoughts.

But when we accept Jesus as our Savior and Lord of our life we become a slave to righteousness. We are to follow God’s commands and let Him be the controlling factor in our lives.

Ask what commands from God they know and follow. Share some from your experience with them as examples.

## OTHER PASSAGES SITED

Romans 3:23  
Romans: 8  
Romans 10  
Galatians 6