

Romans 6:15-23 Group Study Outline

Romans 6:15–23 — Two Masters, Two Destinies

Bible Study Fellowship Guide

1. Welcome & Last Week's Check-In (5 Minutes)

- **Follow-Up from Romans 6:1–14:** Last week closed with the challenge: *"What would it look like to offer one part of your life to God this week?"*
 - Did anyone experience a moment this past week where you deliberately chose to "reckon yourself dead to sin and alive to God" (Rom. 6:11)?
 - **Icebreaker Question:** In our culture, true "freedom" is often defined as having zero rules or obligations. Why does total autonomy often end up trapping people instead of truly freeing them?
-

2. Scripture Reading

Romans 6:15–23 (KJV)

3. Core Themes to Track

As we read and discuss tonight's passage, notice these three central movements:

1. **The Dangerous Question (v. 15):** Why being under grace never means a license to sin.
 2. **The Principle of Allegiance (vv. 16–19):** Everyone serves someone—we are either servants of sin unto death, or servants of obedience unto righteousness.
 3. **The Contrast of Outcomes (vv. 20–23):** What sin produces (shame, empty fruit, and earned wages of death) versus what God produces (holiness and the free gift of eternal life).
-

4. Group Discovery & Discussion Questions

Observation (What Does the Text Say?)

1. Look at verse 15. How does Paul's question here compare to his opening question in verse 1? What is his immediate, emphatic answer?

2. According to verse 16, how do we determine whose servant a person actually is?
3. In verses 17–19, what changes occur in a believer's heart and actions when they are set free from sin?
4. What sharp contrast does Paul draw in verse 23 regarding how death is received versus how eternal life is received?

Interpretation (What Does It Mean?)

5. In verse 17, Paul thanks God that they "obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." Why is *heart obedience* essential to genuine Christian freedom, rather than just external conformity?
6. Verse 20 mentions being "free from righteousness" under sin. Why is that kind of freedom actually a tragedy?
7. Why did Paul use the contrast between **wages** and a **gift** in verse 23?

Personal Application (How Do We Respond?)

8. In what everyday areas of thought, speech, or habit are believers most tempted to treat God's grace as an excuse rather than a motive for holy living?
9. Verse 19 commands us to yield our specific physical and mental members as servants to righteousness. What is one specific "member" (your tongue, your eyes, your schedule, your hands) you need to actively surrender to God's purpose this week?

5. Memory Verse for the Week

Romans 6:23 (KJV)

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

6. Weekly Takeaway & Challenge

- **The "Yield & Replace" Challenge:** Identify one habit, reaction, or area of life you tend to surrender to self or sin. Instead of just trying to "stop doing it," put verse 19 into practice by actively replacing it with an act of righteous obedience to God.