

ROMANS 6:15-22

OBEDIENCE

THE FOUNDATION OF OBEDIENCE (Read Romans 6:15-16)

- Compare Romans 6:15 with Romans 6:1. Why is grace the foundation of obedience to Christ and not permission to sin?
- Discuss Romans 6:16. Why does obedience reveal who our master is?
- Obedience is a word that gets confused today in the Christian life. While a person is not saved by obedience, obedience is revealing. Talk about how obedience to Christ should flow from a heart that has been transformed by Jesus and not out of a desire to earn God's love and grace. (e.g. John 14:15; 15:9-11)

THE FREEDOM OF OBEDIENCE (Read Romans 6:17-19)

- What does it mean to become "obedient from the heart?"
- Discuss how freedom from sin brings slavery to righteousness, and how is slavery to righteousness actually brings freedom and not bondage.
- Spend some time in 6:19. Discuss what it looks like to present yourself either to impurity/unrighteousness or purity/righteousness. Talk about the true freedom that Christ offers versus the phony freedom sin offers.

THE FRUIT OF OBEDIENCE (Read Romans 6:20-22)

- What does Paul mean when he says, "when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness?"
- Fruit (evidence) is shown by whom we love and serve, and we all love and serve someone or something supremely. What does fruit of sin look like versus fruit of righteousness?
- Romans 6:22 is a powerful verse. The blessing of freedom from sin is that a follower of Jesus enters a life of sanctification. What is the goal of sanctification, why is it painful sometimes, but why is it ultimately for our good?
- End by sharing testimonies of God's sanctifying work in your lives. Take a few moments to celebrate and encourage one another in God's good work.