



Awaken

FREE TO BELONG TO GOD

Romans 6:15–23

Awaken

Big Picture / Key Message

Jesus did not set us free so we could belong to ourselves; he set us free so we could belong fully to God.

Sermon Text

Romans 6:15–23

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 6:24
- 1 Peter 2:16

Opening

➤ Icebreaker:

- When do you feel the most free? Is it on vacation when you are far away from everyday life? At home when you are alone? When you're out with your friends? What about this makes you feel free?
- Has there been a moment where you had to choose between things, but you really wanted both? What was it? Were you happy with your decision?



➤ Slaves to Righteousness

(Romans 6:15–23)

- How do the terms “slaves of righteousness” and “slaves to God,” make you feel? Why do you think Paul uses strong language like this?
.....
- Sin pays wages, but The Lord gives a free gift. What is the difference between a wage and a gift? Use a dictionary or Bible lexicon as needed. How does this reflect the motivations behind each?
.....
- Can you see the different fruits you produced before you were saved by Christ and after? What is the main difference?

➤ Who Will You Chose

(Joshua 24:14–15)

- Can anyone go without serving someone or something? Why or why not?
.....
- How can serving the Lord still result in freedom? Doesn't serving require you to give up your freedom? Explain your answer.
.....
- How has choosing the Lord brought freedom in your life? If you haven't made the decision for yourself, how have you seen it in the lives of others around you?

➤ Promises of Freedom

(John 10:10)

- Sin and Jesus both promise life, but what do each of them actually bring according to this scripture? Which holds more freedom?
.....
- Where have you seen “the thief” come in and steal freedom? This can be in your own life and experience or somewhere else you have seen it.
.....
- How can you guard against these "thieves" in everyday life?

➤ Using Your Freedom

(Galatians 5:13)

- “If God gives us grace and forgiveness, I should be able to do whatever I want.” Why doesn’t this idea work for someone who is truly set free through Christ?
.....
- Jump ahead to Galatians 5:19–21. What are the works of the flesh listed? Go to verses 22–23. What are the Fruits of the Spirit?
.....
- How can we find freedom in serving others? Are there any other scriptures you can think of that back this up?

Personal Reflection

- Is it hard for me to accept that I am most free when I belong fully to the Lord and accept Him as my master? Why or why not?
.....
- Where in my life have I seen that wages of sin show up? Did they show themselves as a deadened conscience, deadened joy, damaged relationships, spiritual numbness, shame, secrecy, bondage, or something else?
.....
- What is holding me back from the freedom of belonging to the Lord? Is it something in my past? Is it doubt?

Prayer Focus

Take the last Personal Reflection question and pray that God will meet you where you are to show you the incredible freedom He gives when you follow Him.

Confess your sins to the Lord, not in a general way, but specifically. Sin is full of darkness and depict, but confessing allows the light and freedom of Christ to eradicate that darkness from your heart.

Pray that God can help you indicate “masters” in your life that you need to get rid of so that you can focus solely and wholly on Him!

On Your Own (Weekly Practice)

- Read through each of the verses in this study and choose one to write out in your own words.
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- Take time to pause each day and examine your heart, soul, and mind to see what it is that they are desiring. Is it something that the world has to offer to give you “freedom,” or is it the true freedom that the Lord offers?
.....
- Ask yourself why you follow the commands that God puts before us. Is it to try to earn a wage of freedom and grace, or is it out of the outpouring of love and appreciation that you have towards the Lord for the freedom He has already given you?