

Week of October 11, 2026 - You're Not Your Own | Small Group Study 17

Connect

Think back to when you were young. Was there a specific junk food or snack that your parents strictly limited, but as you grew older you started eating more and more of it? Have you eventually had to cut back on it for your health?

Verses - Romans 6:15-23 (CSB)

Read aloud:

15 What then? Should we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? Absolutely not! 16 Don't you know that if you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of that one you obey — either of sin leading to death or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But thank God that, although you used to be slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that pattern of teaching to which you were handed over, 18 and having been set free from sin, you became enslaved to righteousness. 19 I am using a human analogy because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you offered the parts of yourselves as slaves to impurity, and to greater and greater lawlessness, so now offer them as slaves to righteousness, which results in sanctification. 20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free with regard to righteousness. 21 So what fruit was produced then from the things you are now ashamed of? The outcome of those things is death. 22 But now, since you have been set free from sin and have become enslaved to God, you have your fruit, which results in sanctification — and the outcome is eternal life! 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. According to vv.15-16, Paul asks if we should sin just because we are under grace. Since our salvation is a secure gift of birth that we can never lose, why is it still dangerous for our daily fellowship with God to act like slaves to sin?

2. In vv.17-18, Paul says we have been completely set free from sin. Instead of trying to stop sinning through our own stressful human effort, how can simply yielding to the Holy Spirit help us obey God naturally from the heart?

3. Looking at v.19, Paul tells us to offer ourselves to righteousness, which leads to sanctification. Since true holiness is received by faith and not achieved by our works, how does daily surrender expand our inner capacity to hold more of God's love?

4. Based on vv.20-23, the wages of sin is death but eternal life is a completely free gift. If heaven is already guaranteed for believers without requiring perfect behavior, how does the promise of gaining future Kingdom rewards motivate you to live faithfully right now?

Share

Discuss 1:
Pastor Takeshi shared how his habit of eating junk food started small but slowly grew until it hurt his health. He explained that serving sin or serving God are both progressive habits that grow bigger over time. How does knowing that small daily choices build up over time encourage you to make small good decisions today?

Discuss 2:
To explain how God changes us, Pastor Takeshi shared the illustration of pouring hot metal into a new mold. When we believe in Jesus God puts us into a new mold so we will take the shape of Jesus over time. What is one area in your life where you feel God is currently shaping you to look more like Jesus?

Minister to one another through PRAYER sharing *specific* prayer requests.