Celebrate Freedom: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of…
Romans 6:13-23
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Romans 6:13-23: Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. [14] For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace. [15] What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! [16] 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? [17] 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. [18] You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. [19] 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. [20] When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. [21] What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! [22] 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. [23] For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church, and Community

1. _____ the power of slavery

_____ by sin: The Law of God came in order to identify and indict sin, but it also empowered it more and more…the reign of sin is death! Romans 5:20a, 21a (JOT)

_____ grace: Just as sin spewed death and destruction, grace was quenching its power…by reigning with new life, liberty, and the pursuit of holiness through Jesus Christ our Lord! Romans 5:20, 21b (JOT)

2. _____ to the power of God's grace

_____ life: Here's the deal, you can either offer yourself as a weapon of unrighteousness to sin or you can offer yourself to God as one who has been resurrected to new life to become an instrument of righteousness! Romans 6:13 (JOT)

_____ liberty: …Some of the acts of so-called freedom that destroy freedom. Offer yourselves to sin, for instance, and it's your last free act. But offer yourselves to the ways of God and the freedom never quits. Romans 6:18 (MSG)

_____ the fruit of holiness: But now, since you have been liberated from sin and have become enslaved to God, you have your fruit, which results in sanctification-- and the end is eternal life! Romans 6:22 (CSB)

3. _____ the ways of death

_____ believing: Since you have been justified by faith, you have peace with God through…Jesus Christ. You now have access to this solid, immovable grace to rejoice in the hope of honoring God! Romans 5:1-2 (JOT)

Spiritual Action Step:

What are you chasing today? Are you exhausted and empty? Are you struggling to find hope and peace? Jesus says: *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16 (NIV))* This is the ultimate grace that Jesus would give his life for you! He wants you to find genuine peace and joy! The journey begins by asking for God's help to break the power of sin and acknowledging that you cannot save yourself. Then, by faith, accept Jesus into your heart. God will give you his grace and love that is found in believing in Jesus. This week, read Romans 5 and 6 to allow the Holy Spirit to lead you into the powerful freedom of grace!

Translations: NIV: New International Version; MSG: The Message; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; CSB: Christian Standard bible.