

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans

Message: Raise Your Sails

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Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Read Romans 6:15-23

1. Paul addresses the tempting thought that because we are under grace, our choices no longer carry weight (v 15). If God is going to forgive us anyway, why bother with the hard work of holiness?
2. There is no "neutral" ground in the spiritual life. We are a slave to whatever we choose to obey (v 16). Why do you think we resist the idea of being a "slave" to anything, sometimes even God? What helps you see obedience to Christ as joyful surrender instead of fearful control? How can we discern what/who we are obeying in our daily life? What signs or fruit might reveal it?
3. When internal desires were recalibrated their obedience flowed from the heart (v 17). What's the difference between outward compliance and obedience that flows from the heart? Has your motivation for obedience changed over time? If so, how?
4. Paul comments that he has to speak to them a certain way because of the weakness of their flesh (v 19). When thinking about non-believers or those who are infants in the faith, how should we communicate differently with



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them? What helps you discern whether to speak boldly or gently in spiritual conversations?

5. Paul describes the recipients of this letter as slaves to moral impurity and lawlessness before coming to know Christ (v 19). This reminds us that non-believers don't just do wrong things, they are bound to a way of life apart from God's righteousness. How can this perspective shape the way we approach people who live in ways that oppose God's design? Think of a time before you came to faith (or before a season of growth). What kind of thinking or behaviors felt "normal" to you at the time, but now seem clearly harmful or empty?
6. Worldly pursuits do not produce godly fruit and can lead to feelings of shame (v 21). As a Christian have you ever felt like you are "missing out" on what the world says is fun? What is often the result of a me-first my-way mentality? How have you experienced joy when living God-first, His-way?
7. As people set apart for God, we reap fruit that results in sanctification (v 22). As you reflect on your spiritual journey, would you describe your growth as more of a slow, steady maturing process or marked by bursts of rapid development? Why do you think it's unfolded that way? What practices or habits have helped you become more mature spiritually? Are any of these practices something you can invite others to do with you?
8. Paul contrasts two outcomes: what we *earn* through sin and what we *receive* through grace (v 23). As you meditate on this verse, what reflections do you have? What can we learn about God from this verse? How could you help someone understand the beauty of God's gift rather than trying to fix themselves before coming to Him?



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