

ROMANS

THE GRACE OF GOD: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Freedom in Christ

• Romans 7 : 1 - 6 •

Week 12

DEVOTION

In the previous chapter Paul asserted that the believers “are not under the law, but under the grace (6:14). And in the following verses 6:15-23, explains why we cannot continue sinning. Having dealt with the false view, Paul, now, gives us the true purpose. God released us from the Law, not so that we would be free to sin, but so that we would be free to serve him. In romans 7:1-6, Apostle Paul uses the analogy of marriage to illustrate our relationship to the Law and Christ. Just as a woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives but is released upon his death, so we, in Christ, have died to the law and are released from its binding power. This freedom enables us to live in the new way of the Spirit, no longer enslaved to the old covenant in the Law.

The law reveals our sin and our inability to meet God’s perfect standards. Before Christ, we were under the law’s condemnation, bound to a system that could not save us fully. However, when we were united with Christ in his death and resurrection, we died to the law’s authority. We are now free to belong to Christ, “who was raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God”. (v.4). To put it simply, imagine a farmer struggling to cultivate his crops using outdated tools that only highlight his inefficiency. Then, someone gifts him a modern equipment that enables him to cultivate his fields with ease and abundance. The law is like the old tools – good but insufficient to produce a fruitful harvest. Christ, through his Spirit, provides us the power to live lives that glorify God. What a blessed privilege!

This new freedom Christ offers also means that our identity is no longer defined by our failures under the law. Romans 7 reminds us that we are no longer bound to that authority if sinful nature and condemnation. In Christ, we are fully accepted and empowered to live out our new identity as children of God.

This week, reflect on your freedom in Christ. Are there areas where you are still living as though you are still bound to the law? Rejoice in the truth that you are free to live by the spirit, bearing fruit for God and walking in joyful obedience.

Monday

Freedom from the Law

Read: Romans 7:1-2; Colossians 2:13-14

Paul uses marriage as an analogy to explain our relationship with Law. Just as a woman is freed from her marital obligations upon her husband’s death, we are freed from the Law’s authority when we are united with Christ through His death. The Law no longer binds us because Christ fulfilled its demands.

1. In your own understanding what does it mean to you that Christ has freed you from the Law’s Authority,? And how do you experience that?
2. Are there areas in your life where you still live as though you are bound by the law rather than grace?

Tuesday

United with Christ:

Read: Romans 7:3-4; John 15:4-5; Galatians 5:22-23.

This new relationship (being united with Christ) has a purpose: to bear fruit for God. It means living a life that reflects Christ – showing love, joy, peace, patience, and other fruits of the spirit.

1. Read Galatians 5:22-23 and examine what kind of fruits are you bearing for God?
2. How does your relationship with Christ influence your daily decisions and actions?

Wednesday

The Old way of the Law

Read: Romans 7: 5; Galatians 5:16-17

Before Christ, the law revealed our sinful nature but could not save us from it. Instead, it aroused sinful passions, leading to actions that resulted in spiritual death. In Christ, we are no longer controlled by the sinful nature but by His Spirit.

1. Search your heart prayerfully and ask, are there habits or mindsets from your old self that still need to be surrendered to God?
2. What steps can you take to live more fully in the Spirit rather than the flesh?

Thursday

A New Way of Life

Read: Romans 7: 6; Ezekiel 36:26-27; 2 Corinthians 3:6

In Christ, we have a new way of life—a life led by the Spirit. Serving God is no longer about following a set of rules but about a heart transformed by His Spirit. This new way of life brings joy, freedom, and purpose.

1. As you live the Christian life, how are you serving God in the new way of the spirit? If not, what changes can you make to your life?
2. As yourself the question, how can you cultivate a deeper reliance on the Holy Spirit this week?

Friday

Living in Freedom to Serve

Read: Romans 7:5-6; 1 Peter 4:10

Paul concludes this section by emphasizing that we have been released from the law so that we can serve God in the new way of the spirit. This is not about following rules but about living in a relationship with God, empowered by His Spirit.

1. Ponder: what motivates you to serve God? Reflect: In what ways can you serve others as an expression of your love for God?
2. What steps can you take to remind yourself daily of the new freedom you have in Christ?