



Week #4: A New Allegiance

How to Live Under a New Allegiance

For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

Romans 6:14 (NIV)

- Law demands allegiance by _____. Grace gives allegiance by _____.

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! 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? 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. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. 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.

Romans 6:15-19 (NIV)

- We are all a servant to _____ or _____.

When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness.

Romans 6:20 (NIV)

- In our life whatever we obey gets the _____.

What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! 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. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:21-23 (NIV)

- We make our _____ and our choices _____.

Discussion questions:

1. Paul says followers of Jesus are no longer under the law but under grace (Romans 6:14). In what ways do you still find yourself relating to God through performance, rules, or pressure rather than relationship and grace?
2. What patterns, habits, and desires seem to have the strongest influence over your daily decisions right now? What might that reveal about your true allegiance?
3. Romans 6:21-23 contrasts the outcomes of sin and obedience. When you look honestly at your life, what "fruit" has different allegiances produced in you-both life-giving and life-draining?
4. An Invitation: At the start of each day this week, pause and consciously "offer yourself" to God (Romans 6 :19). Open your hands as a physical posture and pray something simple like: "Jesus, today I choose your grace as my Lord and Savior. I offer my thoughts, decisions, and desires to you. Lead me along your path."

Recommended resources:

[*Practicing the Way*](#), by John Mark Comer

[*Sacred Rhythms*](#), by Ruth Haley Barton

[*Grace \(Eventually\)*](#), by Anne Lamott

[*Romans for Everyone*](#), N.T. Wright

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