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*Wednesday Gel Group Online*

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Tonight's Bible reading from Romans 6:15-23 as well as 7:1-6 has Paul using two illustrations from his everyday life. The thrust of his points are how believers are firstly set free from sin and released from the Mosaic law. Why did he do this? He did this so that we may serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

Let's pray together and then read Romans 6:15-23.

1. Last week in our study, freedom in Christ was Paul's emphasis yet here in this reading another theme is at the centre of Paul's writing. What do you think Paul's theme is in this reading? Is it something you would be familiar with in our culture?
2. How does Paul use this imagery and what are we reminded of in terms of what our state used to be?
3. Let's read verses 17-18 again and discuss what your response is to this.
4. In verse 19, the apostle sets out the response that believers should make to transfer the power he describes in two contrasts. How does he do that? What modern day imagery could we use?
5. What are we freed from as seen in verse 20? What are the benefits/results in verse 21?
6. What happened when we became believers (22-23)?
7. What is a way we could share this with someone who doesn't yet believe?

Let's now read Romans 7:1-6

We can see throughout Paul's letter, the negative effect of the Mosaic law. It is not possession of the law but obedience to God which counts. As a result, the law is unable to justify a person which we noted in Romans 3:20-28. If Christians are to be free from sin, they must therefore be taken out from the law's binding authority (6:14-15). In this section, Paul directly addresses the negative effects of the Mosaic law and its relationship to believers.

1. How does Paul in verses 1-4 lead up to his central point in verses 5-6?
2. How does this illustration parallel chapter 6?
3. How then are we released from the law? Does Paul use stronger language? (Verse 4-5)
4. What are the results of dying to the law?
5. In Christ's death, what effects of the law have been nullified?
6. In reflecting on the illustration of a married woman, how could we create a conversation using our culture or way of life?
7. How would you describe tonight's study as good news?
8. Let's pray that we have the opportunity to have a conversation with someone about what it means to have faith in Jesus Christ.