

# THE GOSPEL IS RIGHTEOUSNESS

ROMANS 6:15-23 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD  
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*I believe the gospel and choose to live a righteous life...*

- ***By grace...not the law (6:15)***
- ***As a slave of obedience...not of sin (6:16)***
- ***Committed to the Word...not rejecting it (6:17-18)***
- ***Increasing in sanctification...not increasing in sin (6:19)***
- ***Free from sin...not free to sin (6:20-22a)***
- ***Anticipating eternal life...not second death (6:22b-23)***

## GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- If God is concerned about our righteousness, why doesn't He just remove our capacity to sin?
- Instead of removing our capacity to sin, God helps us identify what sin is and where it leads so we can choose righteousness instead. Consider the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3-17). Is your life presently in line with the heart of these laws? On which commands do you need to seek his mercy and grace?
- In Romans 16:6, Paul uses the example of voluntary slavery, which was familiar to his culture but not ours. Look at Exodus 21:1-6 and Deuteronomy 15:12-16 to get a better understanding of what was behind Paul's illustration. What motivated free Hebrew people to offer themselves to a master? What would encourage a believer to become a slave to obedience?

- Briefly describe your relationship to the Word of God over the past week? How does that compare to the standard set by Romans 6:17?
- How can a personal study of God's Word keep you from making the mistake of blindly "following the tail" in front of you? *(If you want to take this question further, think about Scriptures that provide direction for believers in terms of sexual ethics, politics, finances, ecology, physical health, forecasting the future.)*
- If you were a slave to sin or righteousness, how could that fact remain hidden? Why might you want to keep others from knowing which master you are currently serving?
- What would make it clearer to others that you have gladly chosen slavery to obedience over slavery to sin?
- What is increasing in your life, sanctification or sin? *(More freedom or more hiding of things you are secretly doing?)* Where do you see reasons to rejoice in growth? Are there any concerns others have pointed out where progress is not yet apparent?