Romans 6:15-23
From Slaves of Sin to Servants of God | April 6th - April 12th, 2014

Warm-up: Easter is fast approaching and is often regarded as the most important day on the Christian calendar. How do you celebrate? Do you think it takes a back seat to Christmas in terms of significance to us? Why or why not?

➢ Read **Romans 6:15-19.** In this passage Paul uses the analogy of slavery or servitude to describe the Christian's obedience and commitment to Christ.
  o In **v. 15** Paul asks if we are permitted to go on sinning since we have been saved by grace. Do you see this sort of mentality at work in your own life or in the life of the church at large? How so?
  o How does the imagery of slavery help you understand our previous state in sin and our new state in righteousness? (Let **v.16** guide your discussion)

➢ On Sunday George talked about "besetting" or habitual sins. When it comes to sin patterns in our lives we must ask some important questions. 1. <u>What lie are we believing</u>? (e.g. *that drinking alcohol will be a solution to my pain and stress*) 2. <u>What is motivating this belief</u>? and 3. <u>How does the Lord provide true freedom in this particular area</u>?
  o Apply this simple process to some tendencies you have in your own lives and share as you feel led.

➢ George shared on Sunday that, *"Our life after knowing Jesus Christ must be different than before we knew Jesus."*
  o Ask yourself: "What's different about the way I live my life because of my faith in Jesus?" How would you honestly answer this today? How would you *like* to answer this question in the future?

➢ Read **Romans 6:20-23.** In these versus Paul declares our release from the power of Sin and our position as slaves of righteousness.
  o When we become believers, we have a new life goal: holiness. Discuss in what ways this feel motivating to you and in what ways it does not? Why ought we to be happy to pursue holiness?

Wrap-up: As you close, pray for Jesus to help you battle sin and discover what is driving those desires and temptations in your life.