

CCR Reflection Questions
Wages of Sin vs The Free Gift of God
28/07/2026

Romans 6:12-23

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you **obey its passions.**

13 Do not present your members to sin as **instruments for unrighteousness**, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from **death to life**, and your members to God as **instruments for righteousness.**

14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are **not under law** but **under grace.**

15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!

16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which **leads to death**, or of obedience, which **leads to righteousness?**

17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once **slaves of sin** have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

18 and, having been set free from sin, have become **slaves of righteousness.**

19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves **to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness**, so now present your members as slaves to **righteousness leading to sanctification.**

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now **ashamed? For the end of those things is death.**

22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get **leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.**

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SUMMARY:

1. Sin- Bondage to Evil Desires (v12-15)

Obey its evil desires vs brought from death to life
Instrument of righteousness vs instrument of unrighteous
Under law vs under grace

2. Slave – The Contrasting Masters (v16-19)

Slaves to sin leading to death vs slaves to obedience leading to righteousness
Impurity and to ever increasing wickedness vs righteousness leading to holiness

3. Subjugate -The Choice of Your Life (v20-21)

Fruit which you are now ashamed – end of those things is death vs
Fruit you get leads to sanctification – its end, that is eternal life

Being in Slavery of Sin Shackles us to wrongful submission
Being in Slavery of Sin Steers us towards dreadful destiny
Being in Slavery of Sin Shapes us badly in our way of living
However, being in slavery of obedience frees us from fear
being in slavery of obedience fulfils our redeemed destiny
being in slavery of obedience fuels our lives of genuine worship

John Calvin

"No one escapes a master. We either serve the cruel tyranny of our own passions, which leads to death, or we submit to the joyful authority of Christ, which leads to life."

Charles Spurgeon

"When a man becomes a Christian, he does not change from being a slave to being his own master. He changes masters. He is delivered from the tyranny of sin into the sweet bondage of Jesus Christ."

Crucified with Christ: So that we can put to death our old sinful self-centred, self-driven and self-preserved.

Christ-Centred Living: The Holy Spirit guides us, replacing our old desires with the character of Christ.

Confident in Faith: Our daily choices are guided by complete trust in Jesus rather than relying on our own strength.

Compelled by Love: This new life is motivated entirely by the grace and love of Jesus.

DISCUSS

1. Sin- The Causes of Sin

In a fast-paced, high-achieving society like Singapore, "sin" is rarely a category people think about; instead, we focus on "success," "efficiency," or "self-improvement."

How do our local cultural pressures—such as Kiasi (fear of death/taking responsibility), Kiabo (fear of not having/material lacking) & Kiasu (fear of losing out/drive of status)— quietly become the root causes or triggers that entice us to let sin "reign in our mortal bodies" (v. 12)?

2. Slave – The Contrasting Masters

Paul argues that we are always slaves to whatever we obey—either to sin leading to death, or to obedience leading to righteousness (v. 16).

In our daily Singaporean routine, how do we distinguish between serving a godly master versus serving the subtle cultural masters like corporate ambition, financial security, or family expectations? What does it look like practically to "present yourselves as slaves to righteousness" when your workplace or social circle demands "total allegiance" to a "different master"?

3. Subjugate -The Choice of Your Life

The climax of this passage contrasts the "wages of sin" (what we rightfully earn/result of in) with the "free gift of God" (eternal life in Christ Jesus, v. 23).

In a meritocratic culture where we are conditioned to believe that everything must be earned through hard work, why is it so difficult for us to fully accept and rest in this "free gift"? What is one area of your life this week where you need to consciously subjugate your own desire for control and choose obedience to Christ instead?

