



Week #5: A New Freedom

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

Romans 6:14 (NIV)

Do you not know, brothers (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is released from the law regarding her husband. So then, she will be called an adulteress if she marries another man while her husband lives. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she would not be an adulteress if she marries another man. So, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may be married to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, so that we may bear fruit for God.

Romans 7:1-4 (MEV)

The truth about being Brand New:

- I'm no longer bound to a _____; I am joined to a _____.

So, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may be married to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, so that we may bear fruit for God. When we were in the flesh, the passions of sin, through the law, worked in our members to bear fruit leading to death. But now we are delivered from the law, having died to things in which we were bound, so that we may serve in newness of the Spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter of the law.

Romans 7:4-6 (MEV)

- I'm no longer bound to _____; I have a new spirit that produces better _____.

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid! But I did not know sin, except through the law. I would not have known coveting if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting. For apart from the law sin is dead. I was alive without the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was intended for life, proved to be death in me. For sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and killed me through it. So then, the law is holy and the commandment is holy and just and good.

Therefore has that which is good become death unto me? God forbid! Rather, sin, that it might be shown to be sin, was working death in me through that which is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

Romans 7:7-13 (MEV)

- I'm no longer bound to the _____ of the law; Jesus _____.

Discussion questions:

1. Where am I still relating to God more like a performance system than a relationship with Jesus, my savior? Do I still measure my worth by how well I perform?
2. What fruits is my current spiritual life producing? What patterns, attitudes, or reactions in my life reveal what is actually shaping me?
3. When I become aware of sin, do I move toward shame or toward Jesus? How do I typically respond when my failures are brought to light?

Recommended resources:

[Good and Beautiful and Kind](#), by Rich Villodas

[Presence Over Perfect](#), by Shauna Niequist

[The Gift of Imperfection](#), by Brene Brown

[Abba's Child](#), by Brennan Manning

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Romans 7:1-4 (MEV)

The truth about being Brand New:

- I'm no longer bound to a system; I am joined to a Savior.

So, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may be married to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, so that we may bear fruit for God. When we were in the flesh, the passions of sin, through the law, worked in our members to bear fruit leading to death. But now we are delivered from the law, having died to things in which we were bound, so that we may serve in newness of the Spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter of the law.

Romans 7:4-6 (MEV)

- I'm no longer bound to sin; I have a new spirit that produces better fruit.

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid! But I did not know sin, except through the law. I would not have known coveting if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." But sin,

taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting. For apart from the law sin is dead. I was alive without the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was intended for life, proved to be death in me. For sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and killed me through it. So then, the law is holy and the commandment is holy and just and good.

Therefore has that which is good become death unto me? God forbid! Rather, sin, that it might be shown to be sin, was working death in me through that which is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

Romans 7:7-13 (MEV)

- I'm no longer bound to the measuring stick of the law; Jesus fulfilled it.

Discussion questions:

1. Where am I still relating to God more like a performance system than a relationship with Jesus, my savior? Do I still measure my worth by how well I perform?
2. What fruits is my current spiritual life producing? What patterns, attitudes, or reactions in my life reveal what is actually shaping me?
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