

MINING THE MESSAGE



9-28-2025

Title	<i>Freedom: Redefining Slavery</i>
Scripture	<i>Romans 6:12-23</i>
Speaker	<i>Jeff Terrell</i>
Big Idea	Using the “deep knee bend” of slavery, Paul gives us our bearings so we can live lives of gospel freedom!

OUTLINE

Present for Service Your Entire Self (12-14)

1. How can the term “passions” in verse 12 be understood in light of the explanations of Ephesians 2:3, 4:22, and Romans 1:24 concerning our fleshly desires? What do these passages together reveal about how sinful passions affect outward actions? What sinful passions are you yielding to, as are demonstrated by your actions?
2. How does vv. 13-14 illustrate God’s active role in our spiritual battle? What has He provided to enable us to break sin’s enslavement and instead become instruments of righteousness? How does embracing that we are “under grace” free you up to live an enslaved life to God with power and joy?

Present for Examination Your Patterns (15-16)

1. What is the human tendency toward grace as described in verse 15? How might this be twisted to justify sin? What is reflected about the master we are submitting to when we allow sin to beset our lives? What errors are revealed about our personal theology of God when we continue in unrepentant sin?
2. What does it mean to sin “as a pattern” or lifestyle, and how can we recognize if this is occurring in our lives? What are the marks of true repentance in breaking free from sinful patterns? How can honesty and accountability within the church community help individuals break sinful habits and pursue righteousness in Christ? In what ways do you need to seek help from the church to overcome persistent sin?

Present for Rehashing Your True Identity (17-23)

1. How does Paul’s imagery of slavery deepen our understanding of biblical freedom in contrast with cultural ideas of freedom that perpetuate independence and self-autonomy?
2. Why is it essential to repeatedly “rehash” our identity in Christ? How does the sheepdog illustration remind us of the joy, security, and sustenance that come from freely obeying Christ? How can you practically “rehash” this week on God’s transformative work in your life to cultivate patterns of holiness and righteousness in Christ?