

**"Free from the Law"
(Romans 7:1-6)**

The Law of God is a wonderful gift to us, but it can also be a curse and a huge burden if it is not understood properly. In and of itself, the Law was not intended to be a means of salvation or spirituality. We can be free from the curse/burden of the Law and serve the Lord in "newness of the Spirit" as we understand the . . .

I. Duration of the Bondage (1-3)

• **An Observation (1)**

Know ye not, brethren...the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?

• **An Illustration (2-3)**

For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

II. Deliverance from the Bondage (4-6)

• **To a New Relationship (4a)**

Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead...

• **To New Results (4b-5)**

...that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

• **To a New Resource (v.6)**

But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Paul uses the analogy of marriage in Romans 7. Share about a humorous incident that you have seen in a wedding ceremony. 😊

1. Share something from Sunday's study that spoke to you personally – a challenge? an encouragement? a good reminder?
2. How does Paul use the analogy of marriage in Romans 7? How are we in a sense "married" to Jesus? What difference should such a close union with Jesus make in our lives?
3. How would you respond to someone who says "since we're free from the Law and under grace, just invite Jesus into your life and then live any way you want!"
4. How can we avoid the two ditches of Legalism and Antinomianism? What does it mean to serve God in "newness of Spirit" rather than in "oldness of the letter?"

Digging Deeper

1. Read the following verses and jot down what they teach about being **free from the Law**: Gal 2:19-20; 3:10-13; 5:22-23; Jer 31:33; Ezek 36:26-27; 2 Cor 3:3-8; Rom 2:29; 8:4.
2. Read the following verses and jot down how they declare the **importance of the Law**: Psalm 19:1-7; 119:1, 16, 72, 97, 165, Deut 6:6; 27:26; Mal 4:4; Mat 5:17-18; Rom 3:31; 7:12, 14, 22, 25; 1 Jn 3:4.

For next week

Read Romans 7:7-13 a few times and jot down several ways these verses describe the purpose of the Law.