

DIGDEEPER

June 4th, 2017

Romans 7:1-6

Dr. Richard Rogers and Chris Millar ([you can listen here](#))

REVIEW IT

Read Romans 7:1-6.

THINK ABOUT IT

In the first six verses of chapter 7, Paul continues to explore the answer to the question asked in 6:15, "What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Absolutely not!" He answers it through the illustration of marriage. He bases our life with Christ on the principle of marriage being a binding and legal relationship that only death can change. Through Jesus, death to the law has freed us from a performance based relationship and we are set free to be "married with Christ." When we come to know Jesus, we have the privilege to enter into a personal and spiritually binding relationship that is rooted in love. Unlike the law where death causes more death, the perfect love of Jesus gives life. Therefore following Jesus should result in a change of allegiance to the new life found in the Spirit, in order to produce more life through the Spirit.

TALK ABOUT IT

- 1) As believers, what is our new status with regard to the Old Testament Law? What caused this change in status? (hint: described law vs. prescribed law)
- 2) Can you think of examples from your own past, or in the lives of those you know, of how slavery to sin is a kind of "death"?
- 3) We know that it's knowing Jesus and not being married that is the pinnacle of our lives, however Paul does use marriage to illustrate our relationship with him. How does the image of belonging to Christ in marriage motivate you to live in a way which pleases him?
- 4) Do you feel that you are "married" to Christ, or to a set of rules and regulations? Why? Does your "ex-husband (the law)" continue to cause you problems? How?

LIVE IT

Take time this week to practice the spiritual discipline of solitude and meditation. Find a place where you can be undisturbed for at least 30 minutes. Ask God to reveal areas in your life where you struggle to give him complete allegiance. Then, ask for forgiveness and the strength and courage to make any needed changes.