

## Questions

1. Read Romans 6:6-16. How do you see your own life in terms of slavery to sin and freedom in Christ? Is there an area where you especially struggle to not offer yourself to sin?
2. In what sense is God's law, as revealed in the Old Testament, a shadow that points to the reality, which is Christ? What does that mean for your relation to laws about ceremonies, clean and unclean foods, and the Sabbath?
3. Why does it matter that Jesus perfectly obeyed God's law?
4. What are some ways that you've been tempted to become disconnected from Jesus Christ?
5. Think of an area in which you've struggled with sin. What would it look like to establish rules regulating your behavior in this area, versus what it would look like to deal with your heart and its desires for this sin?
6. How does being joined to Christ in His death impact your ongoing relationship with sin? How do you practically count yourself as dead to sin when you are tempted?
7. Based on Colossians 2:18 and 23, what are some principles to apply as you consider someone who is supposed to be a teacher of God's Word?

*After each service, if you need prayer,  
someone will be available up front to pray with you.*

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## Guarding Your Freedom

**Colossians 2:16-23**

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As Paul continues confronting the lies that threatened the church in Colossae, Colossians 2:16-23 gives four lessons to help believers guard the freedom that we have in Christ from those who would try to enslave us with lies.

"Therefore" – Connecting 2:16-23 back to 2:13-15.

Jesus triumphed over the spiritual beings who are His enemies, therefore believers should not succumb to teachers and philosophies that are driven by such spiritual beings.

### **1. Live for the reality, not the shadows (2:17).**

**2. Hold fast to Jesus (2:19).**

**4. Examine the teachings and experiences of those who teach, and their outcomes (2:23).**

**3. Live as one who is dead to sin's bondage (2:20-22).**