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## Enslaving Habits

### Romans 6:15-18

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#### “No one is Looking”

Jon checked into the hotel, picked up his room key and headed for the elevator. The door opened at the third floor, and he walked down the hall to his room. The room was pleasant enough. He unpacked his clothes, put them on hangers and sat down on the bed. He looked to the nightstand, picked up the remote control for the TV and turned it on. That old familiar gnawing started to twist his insides. Was he going to be drawn into a night of the sensual programming that was available to him? Was he going to be a slave to it again?

What are you a slave to? Work? Lust? Hobbies? Accomplishments? Money? The thrill of risk? Or are you a slave to righteousness, purity, love and other godly things?

Jon looked around the room trying to free his mind of these thoughts. His eyes fell on the Gideon Bible on the nightstand. He picked it up, opened it, and began to read.

#### Reflection

Romans 6:15-18 teaches that we can either be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or obedience, which leads to righteousness. The very God of the universe had voluntarily become a slave so that you could live free. Our response is obvious. We can only be a slave to one master, the Lord Jesus.

#### Accountability and Application

Have you found yourself in a similar dilemma?

What did you do?

Think of all of your habits, desires, and attitudes. Are you a slave to any of them? Do any of them have you in bondage?

What do you need to do to be able to respond to these struggles with the mind of Christ?

**Prayer:** Lord, so many times I am a slave to my wants and desires. Fill me with your power to overcome these struggles and cause me to pursue righteousness in all I do.

## Romans 6:15-18 (NIV)

### Slaves to Righteousness

<sup>15</sup>What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. <sup>18</sup>You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.