

# Weekly Study Guide

The week of March 23, 2014

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## Daily Readings

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Monday	Romans 6:1-14	Tuesday	Romans 6:15-23	Wednesday	Galatians 5:1-12
Thursday	Galatians 5:13-26	Friday	John 8:31-38	Saturday	1 Corinthians 6:12

*My notes on this week's readings...*

## Next Week in Worship

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**Next week's message:** *From Indifference to Compassion*

**Next week's readings:** Luke 19:41-42; Philippians 2:5-11

Join us next week as we continue to study the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross in our lives today in our series, *Because He Died*. Next Sunday, we will explore the cross as the climactic act of God's passionate concern for our world and how Jesus can use the cross to move us from indifference to compassion for His broken world.

first lutheran church

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# Group Discussion

Connect	Can you think of a time when you experienced or felt a new freedom? What was that like?
Learn	<p><b>Read Romans 6:1-23.</b> Romans 6 is one of the classic Christian teachings on freedom, but it is also a bit complicated. It helps to know that Paul, the author of the letter from which this chapter is taken, has the old Jewish Exodus from Egypt in the background as he writes this. Just as God once freed Israel from Egypt by leading them through the waters of the Red Sea, across the wilderness, and into the promised land; so now God frees us from Sin and Death and leads us through the waters of baptism, across the temptations of this life, and into his new creation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look carefully at this passage and make a list of the uses of the word “sin” in this passage. If you knew nothing about that word before reading this, what would you learn about sin here?</li><li>• Now how is that different from what you might have thought “sin” meant before?</li><li>• What happens to us that sets us free from sin?</li><li>• What similarities and differences do you imagine between being set free from an enslaving regime (Exodus/ Egypt) and being set free from sin?</li><li>• What does this passage tell us to do in relation to freedom from sin?</li></ul> <p><b>Read Galatians 5:13-26.</b> This is another classic passage on Christian freedom, also written by the apostle Paul.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How do people usually understand freedom in our world?</li><li>• This passage warns us about misunderstanding or misusing freedom. How can freedom go wrong?</li><li>• According to this passage, what is freedom really for?</li><li>• What does this passage tell us to do for guidance in our freedom? (See esp. vv. 16 and 25)</li></ul>
Apply	In the OT story of the Exodus, Romans 6, and Galatians 5, God’s people are told to “walk” or “take steps” in and toward freedom. What specific steps do you think God is calling you to take right now to “walk in newness of life” or to “keep in step with the Spirit”?
Pray	Many people in our world today are still physically enslaved. Pray for freedom for children, women, and men to be emancipated from slavery, and ask God if there are any “steps” you can take for the sake of modern day slaves.