

Released to Belong
Romans: The Power of the Gospel
Passage: Romans 7:1-13
Rev. Bruce Persons | August 9, 2026

I. Death Ends The Claim (vv. 1-3)

II. You Belong to Another (vv. 4-6)

III. The Law Is Not The Enemy (vv. 7-12)

IV. So Who Is The Villain? (v. 13)

V. Closing: The Mirror and The Basin

MISSIONAL COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever wanted to do something mostly because somebody told you not to? What was it?
2. Paul asks his own question in verse 7: “Is the law sin?” Before you knew his answer — how would you have answered it? Be honest.
3. Verse 8 says sin “seized the opportunity through the commandment.” How does a good command become a launch pad for the very thing it forbids? Where have you watched that happen — in yourself, or in someone you love?
4. If the law is holy, righteous, and good, and it still could not make anyone holy — what was it *for*? Try to answer from verse 13.
5. Last week we said everyone serves a master and freedom is having the right one. How does this week's passage change, sharpen, or complicate that?

PERSONAL REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. **Who holds the deed?** If someone watched your calendar, your bank account, and your phone for thirty days with no other information about you, who would they say owns you?
2. **What rule are you keeping perfectly and still not being changed by?** Where have you managed a behavior for years while your heart has not moved an inch?
3. **What have you been blaming the commandment for that is actually sin's work?** Is there a part of Scripture you have been quietly angry at?
4. **What is actually growing out of your life this month?** Not what you believe. Not what you post. What is the fruit?

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