

Freedom in Christ

Sunday Sermon: Paul's rebuke of the Judaizers as well as the Galatians... regarding our freedom in Christ.

What is your understanding of Paul's discussion on Freedom? What kind of freedom do we have in Christ?

- Freedom from the wages of sin (we live on account of faith not the law)
- Freedom from a meaningless life (we are children of God, created with a purpose)
- Freedom from the rules of man (we worship in spirit and in truth)
- Freedom from fear, sickness, addictions, depression, anger, hopelessness, having to be perfect, etc.

Biblical Stories for illustrations:

- Saul waiting on Samuel (Fear of man/social or circumstantial pressures).
- Solomon in Ecclesiastes (Life without meaning).
- Judas and Jesus' betrayal (Addicted thief, could not help himself... sold out Jesus).

Current Event Stories for illustrations:

- Terrorism, a dangerous type of fear (rumors of war as noted in Revelations).
- Pressures of Modern Society (moral relativism, slavery to the dollar, social norms).

For freedom to be effective in our lives, our faith must blossom into living by it!

To what extent do we trust God's sovereignty in our own lives? Are we living in this freedom?

Biblical Stories for illustrations:

- Moses delivering the Israelites from Egypt (his faith was credited as righteousness).
- David battled Goliath (conquered Israel's fears).
- Nehemiah's vision becomes reality (conquered Israel's hopelessness).
- Jesus' actions in the eyes of the Pharisees (breaking social and legal barriers)
 - Working on the Sabbath / Taxes to Caesar / Talking to a Samaritan Woman ... etc.

Current Event Stories for illustrations:

- Lisa Mollet (missionary trip to Scotland and now in China)
- Greg Perkins (maintained his spiritual integrity, remained faithful to God's call)

The distinction is our vision of life; does our vision include God's vision or just our own? No matter how great our own vision may be, in light of God's boundless vision and ability to bring it about... our vision alone will never be enough to provide the kind of freedom Jesus has given us. Will you trust his Greater vision, or allow fear to confine you to a tiny realm of fragile possibilities?