

God gives us real freedom.

Freedom. What an idea! There are people around the world who do not experience the same freedoms we have in America. In some regions of Earth, girls are not allowed to attend school, children are required to work long hours in factories and fields, and owning a Bible is a crime- you could go to jail! We should be thankful to live in a country where we can learn, worship, and celebrate as we choose.

Many people, even in the United States, still live in bondage every day- not to an earthly enslaver, but instead to sin. Sin- the bad choices that dishonor God and keep us apart from him, keeps humans from living the best life that God designed us for.

Sin creates traps in our lives that lead us into bad habits and guilt. Have you ever made a bad choice and felt so ashamed, you didn't want to tell anyone? Maybe, you've done something you know was wrong, but you did it because of selfishness? How did it *really* make you feel? Sin is a powerful master- it can force us to do things that are bad for our hearts.

There's hope though! Jesus gives us freedom! In John 8:31-32 Jesus tells some of his followers "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and **the truth will set you free.**"

Later in the Bible, in Romans 6, Paul writes "For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace."

The freedom that Christ gives us allows us to dream of His eternal life and exchange the sinful desires of our hearts for the lasting desires of God's heart. Freedom in Jesus means we can choose His ways instead of choosing sin.

Today celebrate freedom, the lasting freedom that makes us free from sin's bondage and gives us the ability to live as children of the King.

Family Discussion Questions:

Are there any sins that you feel bound to right now? Pray together for Christ's freedom.

What does freedom in Christ look like in a typical day?

How can you pray for each other this week?



John 8:31—38
Romans 6

Family Activity

Create an picture, song, or story about the freedom Jesus offers us.

