

Set Free to Stay Free

John 8:34-36

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- *³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*

- *Free - Not bound, confined or detained; without restraint; possessing the rights of citizenship*
- *Freedom - Liberation from slavery, restraint or the power of another*

1. We are free from sin

- *Romans 6:6-7 - ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ, we were set free from the power of sin.*

2. We are free from the past

- *2 Corinthians 5:17 - ¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

3. Free from our thoughts

- *Romans 8:6 - ⁶ So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.*
- *Ephesians 4:21-24 - ²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³ Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.*

4. Free from our fears

• Isaiah 41:10 - ¹⁰ Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

- *Galatians 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. (NKJV)*
- *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (NIV)*

- *Romans 8:15-17 - ¹⁵ So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. ¹⁷ And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.*

- *“You did not receive a spirit that makes you fearful slaves...you received *God’s Spirit”.
Literally the spirit of sonship
- *We sometimes fail to realize that freedom and sonship go hand in hand. If you possess one you will or should possess the other.*

- *The church doesn't need more deliverance it needs more discipleship.*
- *Freedom requires a change in our mindset*
 - *What do we spend our time thinking about.*

- *Philippians 4:8-9 - ⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. (NLT)*

- *“What we think about when we are free to think about what we will - that is what we are or will soon become.” - A.W. Tozer*
- *Freedom requires a change of our spiritual lifestyle*

- *James 1:25 - ²⁵ But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.*
- *“It appears that too many Christians want to enjoy the thrill of feeling right but are not willing to endure the inconvenience of being right.” - A.W. Tozer*

- *Salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you your life. - Dietrich Bonhoeffer*
- *Psalm 119:45 - ⁴⁵ I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments*

- *Freedom requires us to stop trying to do it on our own - We are not strong enough to break spiritual chains*
- *The greatest enemy to human souls is the self-righteous spirit which makes men look to themselves for salvation. - Charles Spurgeon*

- *2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - ¹⁷ For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image. (NLT)*

- *The Holy Spirit's power will always be equal to our relationship with Him and His relationship with us will always be equal to our openness to Him.*
- *Our relationship with the Holy Spirit is totally predicated on our willingness to seek Him.*

- *Galatians 5:16-17 - ¹⁶ But I say, walk habitually in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts]. ¹⁷ For the sinful nature has its desire which is opposed to the Spirit, and the [desire of the] Spirit opposes the sinful nature; for these [two, the sinful nature and the Spirit] are in direct opposition to each other [continually in conflict], so that you [as believers] do not [always] do whatever [good things] you want to do (AMP)*

- *Galatians 5:25 - ²⁵ If we [claim to] live by the [Holy] Spirit, we must also walk by the Spirit [with personal integrity, godly character, and moral courage—our conduct empowered by the Holy Spirit] (AMP)*