

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with  
one another in our homes

26 April 2026

Stand Firm - Galatians 5:1-6

Sermon: Ted Rastatter

Questions: Kraig Neer

Prayer: to stand firm in the freedom of Jesus! Main Point: true freedom is in Jesus!

Summary: In continuing his message of faith in Jesus as opposed to faith in adherence to the law, Paul goes as far to say the Galatians are severed from Christ and have fallen away from grace if they would be “justified” by the law (vs 4). He also says if you accept Jesus and circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage and that they’d be subject to the whole law (vs 2-3). Instead his message to the Galatians (and us), is to stand firm in the freedom we have in the Lord Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

1. When you hear the word “freedom,” do you instinctively think of *permission* or *purpose*? Why?
2. *NOTE: This question may lend itself to breaking into smaller groups and doing some role-playing.* In addition to the main point above, Ted concluded his sermon by saying we’re not fully free when we do what we want, but only when we stand firm in Jesus. How could this be true when God gives us the ten commandments to live by and gives us things like the golden rule, or “love your neighbor as yourself?” I don’t have rules like that for myself, so by default, if I live by my rules then I should have more freedom from rules/restrictions. Why isn’t personal autonomy the ultimate freedom?
3. If freedom in Christ expresses itself through love (vs 6), how does that challenge overly individualistic views of freedom? Who in your life right now is a clear opportunity for your faith to become visible through costly, intentional love?
4. What are some modern equivalents of circumcision - things we subtly believe make us “more acceptable” to God or others? We could also view these as “yokes” that tempt us. What’s the most convincing “yoke” that tempts you - performance, approval, control, comparison, moral pride, or something else? But what did we learn from the book of Ecclesiastes about these pursuits?
5. Ted also brought up the concept of trying to “one-up” each other in the church. What effect does that have on the church?

Let us remember the words of Jesus as written by Matthew in chapter 11, verses 28-30.