



Pastor Lance Ainsworth  
John 8:31-36

## MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, May 15  
Sunday, May 18

Introduction

John 8:31-36 ESV

*notes*

<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

What's next? "I want you to be free!" - Jesus

"We must possess what we profess." - RC Sproul

Abide: *meno-* to remain, stay, dwell

*"The word of God continually infilling me is what I needed... It's part of what makes me go." -Butch Wilmore NASA*

**If you don't know the word, recognizing the truth becomes difficult.**

<sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

How dare you call me a slave?

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay.

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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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From Slave to Freedom.  
GateWay Church of Visalia  
Pastor Lance Ainsworth, John 8:31-36  
May 15th & 18th, 2025

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: Who is your favorite Bible character and why?

Read Aloud: John 8:31-36

1. v.31-32 “ 31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” Jesus shares the next step after profession, possession. How can we abide in Jesus’ words? How has abiding in Jesus’ word set you free?
2. v.33 “ 33 They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?” How does cultural religion blind us to our sinful state? Do you know somebody who is experiencing this or have you experienced it?
3. v.34-36 “ 34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” How does sin creep in and enslave us? How does sin work to blind us to God’s truth?
4. In light of James 5:16, if you feel comfortable, share where you need to experience freedom in your life and pray for one another.