

REACHING FREEDOM TOGETHER

“The Truth of the King and Kingdom Sets Us Free”

(John 8:31-32; John 15; Galatians 5:1, 22-24; I John 5)

“For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. 21 For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.” (II Peter 2:20-21)

*“If you **ABIDE** in My word, you are truly My disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)*

When we ABIDE ...

You are DECLARED to BE a Disciple of Christ

You are ABLE to KNOW the Divine Truth of God

You are LIBERATED by the TRUTH You Come to Know

Abiding also provides a conduit through which the **Glory** of God is released into your life and into the earth.

❖ **Abandon Our Flesh**

“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore ...” (Galatians 5:1a)

“... and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” (Galatians 5:1b)

In verse 13, Paul states ... *"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."*

- Walk in the Spirit

In verse 16 it says, *"Therefore, walk in the Spirit and the lust of the flesh shall not be fulfilled."*

In verse 18, *"But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law."*

- Works of the Flesh

In verse 19-21, the works of the flesh are:

- ▶ Sexual Sins: Adultery, Fornication, Uncleaness, Lewdness
- ▶ Religious Sins: Idolatry, Sorcery
- ▶ Anger Sins: Hatred, Contentions, Jealousies, Outbursts of Wrath, Selfish Ambitions, Dissentions, Heresies, Envy, Murder
- ▶ Abusive Sins: Drunkenness (out of control drinking), Revelries (worldly partying with drunkenness)

- Wickedness of the Heart

- ▶ Repentance – The Forgotten Doctrine

"We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols." (I John 5:18-21)

▶ Repentance – The Faultfinding Dimension

Sometimes, it seems that Christians want to name and deal with everyone else's sins – but their own.

▶ Repentance – The Focus Declared

" And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols." (I John 5 20-21)

❖ Abide In Him

- The Participants (John 15)
 - ▶ The Vine (Jesus)
 - ▶ The Vinedresser (The Father)
 - ▶ The Branches (The Disciple)

- The Product (Galatians 5)

- ▶ Through Love, Joy, and Peace

Upward Expressions toward God

- Love towards the Lord produces love toward fellow man.
- Joy in the Lord produces joy in dealing with others.
- Peace with God produces peace in life with all mankind.

- ▶ Through Patience, Kindness, Goodness

Outward Expressions toward others

- Patience with others settles our hearts in the midst of situations.
- Kindness toward others brings forth wisdom in the midst of situations.
- Goodness toward others is the work that brings result in situations.

- ▶ Through Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control

Inward Expressions that govern us from within

"Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe? 32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.'"