

“Come Up Higher and Operate in the Freedom you’ve been given”

“At last we have freedom, for Christ has set us free! We must always cherish this truth and firmly refuse to go back into the bondage of our past” Galatians 5:1 TPT. The CSB translation says “don’t submit again to a yoke of slavery”.

I believe in the last 3 weeks a lot has changed in our lives. Freedom has come to areas we never knew there was bondage or perhaps we thought was gone a long time ago. Areas of wrong thinking and worldly pursuit have been exposed and aligned to the truth of God’s word. Perspectives have been challenged and re-postured to where we can see from a higher place. The seated with Christ, finished work view.

As we go into tomorrow’s completion of the fast, first of all, great job! You should be very proud of yourself and the work that you’ve allowed to be done in you. Your persistence and dedication to pursue more of God has developed and instilled much in you. The fruit of the fast will be revealed for months and even years to come. In the joy that is brought through another year’s beginning of setting ourselves apart to seek Him more, there has to be a simultaneous awareness to steward what has been accomplished. What does this look like? As the scripture above points out, we must not go back to the yoke of slavery. Submission is a choice and we get to choose every day if we will walk in the revelation and freedoms made available to us, or go back to the ways of our old man.

Sometimes bondage feels more comfortable than freedom, because we have lived in it longer and allowed it to become part of our identity. That is probably not something we would proudly announce, but many times a quick reflection of wrong patterns will expose that somewhere in our lives, we stopped resisting the enemy and “submitted” to a wrong way of thinking.

Freedom can feel amazing when it is applied, but it can also feel unfamiliar. The enemy loves to come in and tell us that we aren’t really free, that we are just being naive or fooling ourselves. If this tactic doesn’t work, he will try and convince us, that the freedom is only temporary and that we might as well cave in and stop trying to stand strong. It is vital that we remember all he can do is lie. Besides salvation and worship, I do not believe there is anything that rattles the enemy more than witnessing a believer walk out of bondage and into the fullness of everything Christ paid for.

Freedom is such a huge subject matter, I could go on for days. But for now, I want us to just remember a few things. We are free, because Christ made it available to us through His love and grace after his death, burial and resurrection. Not in our works, striving or good measure. But because we acknowledge freedom’s availability and choose to appropriate it to our lives. Secondly, He has given us everything we need for life and godliness according to 2 Peter 1:3. So through every moment, every decision, every situation, I get to make a choice on which perspective I operate, respond and ultimately live from. Freedom, victory, completion and confidence or bondage, beat down, questioning everything.

I believe we have come too far to slip back into old ways of thinking or the “bondage of our past.” Through coming up higher, we’ve come in closer to the King of Kings and been captivated by His truth. Today I will take some time and be thankful of the price that was given, what has been made available to me and the seasons, situations and strongholds I am no longer in. Then I will move forward, toward greater manifestations that His freedom provides. As we experience this, our freedom will spill over to others, and the Kingdom of God will be manifest to the hurting world around us.

Stay warm and safe today,
~Pastor Kelly

