



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“JOHN 8:31-59”

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

DISCOVER

What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

JOHN 8:31-59 Jesus said, “If you abide in My Word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” As we seek to serve God, to surrender continually to Him, Jesus' perfect truth frees us to be all that God meant us to be! Do you need to encounter Jesus in a deeper, fuller way by abiding in His Word? Are you seeking to be all God meant for you to be? In today's passage, Jesus is drawing a line in the sand. Is it time for each of us to consider a 'surrender' check-up?

FREEDOM: Jesus said, “If you abide in My Word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” Just how 'free' are you? Do you live in NO FEAR? Are you free from insecurities, coping mechanisms, pride, ego, false perceptions, religion, etc.? Or do you hold onto certain things for comfort, to make you feel safe and secure?

- We all have fears, whether big or small, that prey on our minds each day....what are the ones you think about most (consider the list above/add to it)? Do you have a long list? What are those fears based on? Do you ever consider yourself enslaved by those fears? How does that affect your perspective and the way you live your life each day?
- What are the comforts you use to ease those fears? How much of your day is consumed with these comforts compared to how much of your day is seeking God in prayer or learning from His Word?
- How do your fears and the comforts you are using to deal with them affect your spiritual life? What part does seeking Jesus as your Comforter play in your life?
- Look at Vs. 36: what does that verse mean to you? ARE you 'free, indeed'? What does that feel like and look like in a person's life?
- Have you found any new 'freedoms' in the past year – from something that used to enslave you? If not, what things could you surrender to Jesus to lean on His perfect truth?

WHO ARE YOU LISTENING TO? WHO ARE YOU SURRENDERING YOUR MIND TO? Who is your life coach, your influencer? How many of those are driving your thoughts and choices? Who is your FATHER?

- Who would you say rules and reigns in your life, driving your purpose, your perspective, your choices? How would your friends and co-workers answer that question about you?
- The Book of John deals a lot with the idea of SURRENDER. What negative outcomes can we expect when we FAIL to surrender ALL to Jesus? What does surrender look like in your life – are there things you are holding on to?
- John also writes a lot about TRUTH. Read verses 41b – 47. What happens when we look at Jesus for what we want from Him or claim we are following Him but we fail to abide in His Word?
- The Jews to whom Jesus was speaking in this passage totally missed the truth, even after all the miraculous things He had done! They didn't like what He was saying and wanted to kill Him! Are there passages in God's Word that you are not comfortable with, that have words you don't like or disagree with? How do you respond to those words? Are you willing to obey them, to surrender to them?
- What was Jesus telling the people in Vs. 58? How would you explain that verse to someone? What does that verse mean to you?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.