

I Am Free

Luke 9:23

²³ Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

Most define Freedom - The ability to do what I want to do.

If having freedom in Christ means that I am forgiven and I do not live according to a list of rules (the Law), and instead, I live according to the guiding hand of the Holy Spirit who dwells in me, can I choose to do whatever I want to do, even if it's selfish, even if it's sin, and be automatically forgiven for my sin? Does God look the other way when I sin because I am not bound by the Law but under grace? Is that Christian freedom?

Romans 6: 1-2

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

Galatians 5:1

**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.
Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves
be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**

1) We are set free in Christ for the sake of being set free.

2) Embracing a religion of works is embracing a form of slavery.

I need to get back into church...

I'm working on some things in my life. I need to get them right...then I will follow Jesus.

John 8:31-36

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, & the truth will set you free.”

John 8:31-36

They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants & have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

John 8:31-36

³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

What is Freedom in Jesus?

1) Freedom from the *guilt* of sin.

What is Freedom in Jesus?

2) Freedom from the *grip* of sin.

What is Freedom in Jesus?

3) Freedom is Giving something up to experience even more.

Sacrifice leads to
deeper intimacy.

Jesus said, "...everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or fathers or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life."

“Deny yourself, take up your cross, follow me,” and what you will experience is far greater than the sacrifice. It’s the “Way of the Cross.”