

Let Freedom Ring...

Breaking the Chains

On July 4, 1776 a nation was born – under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Brave men and women declared their independence, penned their names to a document that declared our rights don't come from a king, a president, or a government. They declared that our rights are granted directly by our Creator.

And, as beautiful and precious as our American liberty is, it points us to an even greater reality. Long before 1776, a higher price was paid on a hill called Calvary for a different kind of freedom—a freedom that chains cannot hold, that governments cannot grant, and that time cannot decay..

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1

Join us as we kick off this new series “Let Freedom Ring”. We will see what it truly means to live as a free people—both as citizens of this great nation and as the freed children of God.

The Dead Don't Take Orders

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:1-4

Baptism is both a funeral and celebration. The old is gone and new is brought forth.

The Power Lines are Cut

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. Romans 6:5-7

Sin calls but we are under no obligation to listen, respond, or obey it.

The Freedom

8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:8-11

We must align our mental checkbooks with the spiritual reality of what Christ accomplished. Sin is dead and righteousness reigns forever.

You may feel paralyzed or owned by past trauma, failed marriages, or long-held secrets. Christ didn't just forgive our past...He killed our old identity. We are legally and spiritually free to walk away from the graveyard of our pasts.

True liberty begins when we sign our own "Declaration of Dependence" at the cross.

The Second Mile: *Going Beyond Sunday*

Let's dig deeper together to see how God is calling and equipping each of us to reach the lost.

Monday – Romans 6 reminds us that our old self is dead and buried with Christ. Are there past mistakes, old labels, or ancestral patterns you are still allowing to define you? Why?

Tuesday – In Rome, a slave's legal obligations ended at death. Since you died to sin, sin no longer has authority over you. What "old command" from the past is trying to yell at you today?

Wednesday – Paul tells us to count ourselves dead to sin (Romans 6:11). Does your mental self-talk match the spiritual reality that Christ has completely cleared your ledger/obligations?

Thursday – Many believers live like paroled convicts who keep wandering back into their old, prison cells out of habit. What is one old habit you need to walk away from today?

Friday – "Dead men don't take orders." If you truly believe that the version of you who failed, fell short, or carried shame is dead and gone, how would you live differently this weekend?