



# FREEDOM

WIC FOCUS 2023



## Transformed Lives

Jesus' vision for His disciples is an ongoing Holy Spirit empowered transformation into His likeness. We want to focus our discipleship, life groups, prayer, worship and outreach on this transformation.

## Transforming Cities

We are called to a city-wide transformation that enables more lives and communities to experience the restoring and renewing power of Jesus. We will partner with our wider Wesley Mission family, churches, ministries and community groups to this aim.

By 2028, we see 5 vibrant church hubs across Sydney bringing holistic transformation to lives and communities.

This is powerfully aligned with the newly framed Wesley Mission Vision: A Spirit-led disciple-making movement.

THE WIC VISION IS:

**TRANSFORMED  
LIVES  
TRANSFORMING  
CITIES.**



TO LIVE OUT OUR VISION FOR 2023, OUR FOCUS IS:

**FREEDOM**



# FREEDOM

...IN CHRIST

...FROM...

...FOR...



## **...In Christ**

The source of freedom we have as believers comes through a living relationship with Jesus (Jn 8:38; Gal 5:1). Through intimacy and communion with Him, the power of His love and sacrifice become our reality.

## **...From...**

Jesus came to destroy the devil's work and set people free (1 Jn 3:8; Jn 8:38). He can set us free from sin, idolatry, addiction, sickness, bondage, demonic influence, unhealthy thoughts, unhealthy behavior, curses...

## **...For...**

Jesus sets us free for a purpose. Primarily that purpose is to love Him, love others and make disciples of Christ everywhere we go in the power of the Spirit. As Christ uses us to set others free, the kingdom of God advances and flourishes leading to transformed lives transforming cities.

# **FREEDOM**



# FREEDOM

TEACHING 2023

**JAN**  
Wisdom for Life

**FEB**  
FREEDOM  
Vision Series

**MAR - APR**  
FREEDOM and  
the Exodus

**MAY - JUN**  
Jesus and  
FREEDOM

**JULY**  
Missionsfest

**AUG - SEP**  
Spiritual  
Warfare and  
Deliverance

**OCT**  
Wesley Mission  
Series

**NOV**  
TYLS and Open

**DEC**  
FREEDOM:  
Advent and  
Christmas

# FREEDOM

TEACHING 2023



*January*

## **Wisdom for Life**

Drawing from the wisdom literature and beyond, this series seeks to inspire a hunger for and growth in wisdom.

*February*

## **Freedom Vision Series**

This month will introduce the concept of Freedom and our plan for 2023. We will also have a combined service across congregations to keep progressing with our vision of: “A Spirit-led, disciple-making movement”.

# FREEDOM

TEACHING 2023



*March - April*

## **Freedom & the Exodus**

Focusing on the Exodus story this series will draw parallels to the ongoing ministry of Jesus in and through us to experience freedom through His power and authority.

*May - June*

## **Jesus & Freedom**

Jesus brought significant freedom to people's lives. Here we zoom in on four areas He wants to free us from: Unforgiveness, Fear of Man, Idolatry & Legalism.



# FREEDOM

TEACHING 2023



*July*

## **Missionsfest & Open Series**

Missions is all about taking the powerful message of Freedom in and through Jesus to those who have not yet heard. During this month our Annual Missionfest will focus on the theme of Mission & Freedom. We will also have a couple of weeks where the sermons will be topical and in accordance to what God may be laying on the preacher's heart to share.

*August - September*

## **Spiritual Warfare & Deliverance**

In this series, we will unpack strategies Satan uses to attack, oppress and bring suffering to all human beings. We will discover how Jesus both destroys the work of Satan and gives us the authority and power to do the same in His Name. We will learn about our God-given weapons for spiritual protection and warfare as well as strategies to help free ourselves and others from evil oppression.

# FREEDOM

TEACHING 2023



*October*

## **Wesley Mission Series**

Similar to the MOVE series, we will have a series which will run simultaneously across all Wesley congregations to further our collaborative vision of “A Spirit-Led Disciple-making Movement”.

*November*

## **TYLS & Open**

Thank You Lord Sunday season will coincide with Thanksgiving this year followed by topical sermons.

*December*

## **Freedom & Christmas**

We will explore Advent and Christmas through the lens of the freedom God came to bring through His Son.



# FREEDOM LIFE GROUP RESOURCES

## **Freedom Vision booklet**

A vision booklet with three Bible studies from Galatians which aim to open up thinking and discussion around the three sub-themes of “Freedom In Christ”, “Freedom From...” and “Freedom For...”.

## **Exodus Bible studies**

WIC-written studies to draw insight from the Exodus story and how this echoes the ministry of Jesus (Mar-Apr).

## **Counterfeit Gods (Keller)**

Explores freedom from modern-day idols (Mar-Jun).



## **Missionsfest booklet**

Ways to engage with missions and missionaries (Jul).

## **Spiritual Warfare studies**

WIC-written studies to unpack spiritual warfare and deliverance and create opportunities to experience freedom (Aug-Sep).

## **WCL Series booklet**

Vision and Bible study resource (Oct).



# DISCIPLESHIP GROWTH AND MINISTRY GATHERINGS

## **Worship & Ministry Nights**

One night each term to worship and minister in the Holy Spirit.

## **Spiritual Warfare Seminar**

Equipping people through in-depth training to experience deliverance (Aug-Sep).

## **Supernatural Conference**

Mike Pilavachi (30 Sep).

# WIC 2023

FIND OUT MORE HERE

## **Website**

<https://wesleyinternational.org.au/>

## **Facebook group**

@Wesley International Congregation

## **Instagram**

@wesleyinternational\_





FREEDOM: WIC FOCUS 2023

REFLECTIONS ON  
FREEDOM FROM  
PAUL'S LETTER TO THE  
GALATIANS



## REFLECTIONS ON FREEDOM FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE GALATIANS

As we begin to bring our focus to the theme of Freedom for this year, we want to encourage you to reflect on three passages from Paul's Letter to the Galatians which specifically draw our attention to:

**FREEDOM IN CHRIST**  
**FREEDOM FROM ...**  
**FREEDOM FOR...**

We encourage you to reflect on these passages and the questions with your Life Group or a friend who may be interested in further theme.





# 1. FREEDOM IN CHRIST

*READ GALATIANS 2:15-21*

In this passage Paul explains that true freedom can only be found by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. To be truly free we have to be in a right relationship with God. To be in a right relationship with God we would have to keep His law perfectly, which no human is able to do. On the cross, Jesus made a way for us to be made right (justified) by taking the punishment for our sins. To put our faith in Jesus work on the cross is the only way to be truly free in this life and the next.

## **Discussion questions**

1. What does freedom in Christ mean to you?
2. If we are free from the constraints of the law, why does Paul encourage us to not break the law?
3. How should our freedom in Christ affect the way we live?
4. How else might Jesus give us freedom?



# 2. FREEDOM FROM...

*READ GALATIANS 3:7-14*

In this passage, Paul explains that Jesus sets us free from the curse of the law. A curse is recurring unpleasant/harmful event that individuals experience. If we try to come into a true relationship with God (true freedom) by keeping every command, we are cursed both now and into eternity as we are unable to keep every law.

However, when we put our faith in Jesus and His death for us on the cross, we are not only set free from the unpleasant effects of not being able to keep the law, but in His name

and by the power of the Holy Spirit we can be set free from the bondage of ongoing sin, oppression and shame.

## **Discussion questions**

1. What has been your experience of curses, either yours or another?
2. What does the term "redeemed" mean to you in terms of your relationship with Jesus?
3. What else does Jesus set us free from?
4. What role might the gift of the Holy Spirit play in helping you to stay free in Jesus?



# 3. FREEDOM FOR...

*READ GALATIANS 5:13-26*

In the previous two passages we learned that we can only be set free by putting our faith in Jesus' finished work on the cross to come into an eternal relationship with God. Jesus sets us free from the curse of not being able to keep the law as well as the oppression of ongoing sin and shame. In this passage we see that we are set free for a purpose - to share the love of God with others so that they may also have the freedom in Christ that we enjoy. In order to fulfil this purpose, we need to continuously

rely on the Holy Spirit to help us use our lives to serve others so that they are able to receive the good news of freedom in Christ.

## **Discussion questions**

1. What warning does Paul give to those who are called to Freedom in Christ?
2. What does it look like to walk by the Spirit in everyday life?
3. How might using our freedom to walk by the Spirit help others to come to Freedom in Christ?
4. What else might we be set free for?

