



The Gospel Way Catechism

Question 15: What is freedom?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

How do you define freedom? Where do you see it in effect most clearly in your life?

Has freedom always been a good thing for you? Name some positive and negative results of having freedom.

QUESTION 15: What is freedom?

ANSWER: True freedom is submission to God. Freedom is not casting off all restraints and pursuing whatever we want. It is embracing the right restraints and aligning our wants with God's will, so we can pursue what is true and good and beautiful.

EXAMPLE: Israel's rescue from captivity and slavery in Egypt

PRINCIPLES:

The world and Satan promise freedom, but deliver a different form of slavery
(John 8:31-47)

Biblical freedom is the God-given ability to understand and embrace holiness
(Romans 8:1-11, 1 Corinthians 10:23-33)

Holiness, by definition, comes with restraints
(Galatians 5:13-17)

Biblical freedom, which leads to obedience, brings us fulfillment
(Romans 6:1-23)

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

In what ways do you most often exercise your freedom? Have you ever used your freedom as an excuse to sin? Have you ever allowed your freedom to lead to holiness?

How does the political understanding of freedom impact the spiritual truth of Biblical freedom? Do you ever confuse these ideas? How might such confusion impact our decision-making?