



True

FREEDOM



Pastor Mason Phillips | July 5, 2026

[WATCH THE SERMON HERE](#)

Day 1: From Belief to Abiding

Devotional: Many elephants remain bound by ropes they could easily break, simply because they believe they cannot escape. Similarly, we often live trapped by past failures, convinced we cannot experience the freedom Christ offers. Jesus makes a crucial distinction: belief is the starting point, but abiding is what brings freedom. The Jews believed in Jesus, yet many didn't experience liberation because they stopped short of discipleship. True freedom requires more than intellectual agreement with truth—it demands dwelling in God's Word daily. Are you merely a believer, or are you an abider? Freedom isn't found in a moment of faith alone, but in the daily choice to remain in Christ's truth, allowing it to transform how you think, speak, and live.

Reading:

John 8:31-36 NKJV

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

They answered Him, “we are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free’?” Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

Revelation: How does the elephant illustration help you understand the ways past failures or experiences might be limiting your current walk with God, even though Christ has already set you free?

Day 2: Freedom from Sin's Penalty

Devotional: Every sin carries a penalty—death. Satan, the accuser, stands before God presenting evidence of our failures, demanding judgment. But when you're in Christ, something remarkable happens: your record is expunged. Jesus stands as your advocate, and His blood covers every accusation. There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. This isn't cheap grace that permits continued rebellion; it's costly grace that frees you to live differently. A presidential pardon releases you from prison but requires you to live lawfully going forward. Christ's pardon frees you from sin's penalty, but abiding in Him keeps you free. Have you accepted this freedom, or do you still live under condemnation? Confess your sins today—God is faithful to forgive and cleanse you completely.

Reading:

1 John 2:1-2 NKJV

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Romans 8:1 NKJV

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Revelation: What is the difference between believing in Jesus and abiding in His word, and how does this distinction impact your daily Christian life?

Day 3: Freedom from Sin's Power

Devotional: Sin wants dominion over you, crouching at your door like a wild animal seeking to devour. But here's the truth: sin no longer has power over you because you're under grace, not law. The question isn't whether sin will tempt you—it will. The question is whether you'll master it or surrender to it. When you abide in God's Word so deeply that you know truth from lies, sin loses its grip. You recognize the enemy's tactics, your flesh's deceptions, and the world's empty promises. This freedom isn't passive—it's active resistance. Present your body as an instrument of righteousness, not unrighteousness. Choose moment by moment to serve God rather than sin. What lies are you believing today? Replace them with truth, and watch sin's power crumble.

Reading:

Romans 6:11-14 NKJV

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead,

and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 6:22 NKJV

But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Revelation: In what areas of your life do you find yourself choosing relative truth based on feelings, circumstances, or culture over God's absolute truth?

Day 4: The Holy Spirit—Your Guarantee of Freedom

Devotional: You cannot live in freedom by yourself. God knows this, so He gave you the Holy Spirit as a down payment, a guarantee of the resurrection life to come. Through the Spirit and God's precious promises, you become a partaker of divine nature, escaping the corruption in the world. This is progressive freedom—sins that once screamed for your attention grow quieter as you abide in Christ. Voices that once controlled you lose their power as you learn to recognize and reject lies. The Holy Spirit helps you glorify God in your body, transforming you from glory to glory. You're not who you were; you're who God says you are—a child of the Most High, deserving of your inheritance. Surrender to the Spirit today and experience another measure of freedom.

Reading:

2 Corinthians 5:1-5 NKJV

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

2 Peter 1:3-4 NKJV

As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life ungodliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to use exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Revelation: How can the Holy Spirit as a guarantee or down payment of future resurrection life help you experience more freedom from sin's power right now in your present circumstances?

Day 5: Choose Freedom Daily

Devotional: Freedom is precious, but it's not automatic—it requires daily choice. You were bought at a price; you're not your own. Therefore, glorify God in your body and spirit. This is the application of everything we've learned: believe AND abide. Every day presents moments where you must choose between God's truth and your feelings, between His way and the world's way. You cannot serve two masters. A kingdom divided cannot stand. Will you choose to take up your cross today? Will you love God more than your sin? Freedom is found in abiding—living like God's truth is true every single moment. It's costly, but the alternative is bondage. Who the Son sets free is free indeed—past, present, and future. Make your choice today: Will you merely believe, or will you abide?

Reading:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 NKJV

“Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God: Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

“Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

“The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you used your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. Then all people of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they shall be afraid of you.

“And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, I the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

“And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them. So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Revelation: What specific steps can you take this week to move from simply believing the truth to actively abiding in God's word and living in the freedom Christ offers?