

Truth sets you Free

- We all want to be free. In essence, this is a good thing. Freedom is life-giving and brings joy and happiness. Opportunities to better ourselves and our care for others comes from freedom. Expression and creativity come from freedom. Being unified and not necessarily uniform is a freedom attribute. So what's the problem? Culture today has decided that freedom is defined by doing whatever you want to do, whenever you want to do it regardless of what others think, feel, or need. I haven't even mentioned our creator yet. Culture today does not dismiss God, it hates God. Openly. Verbally. It mocks God and anyone who would be ignorant enough to trust in Him. Christians, real Christ followers have some big decisions to make this year. In fact, right now. Who will you follow? What freedom will you choose? Worldly freedom? It wants to murder you and your family. Or Godly freedom. It will cost you. But it will also save you.

John 8:31-36

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. 32 You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

- Jesus was speaking to a crowd of people
- A lot of haters there who wanted to murder Him. Lies murder, truth brings life. Jesus is life
- As He is speaking, some of the Jews believe Him. He is now speaking directly to them:

Jesus directives

1. Stay with me
2. Know the truth
3. Experience real freedom

33 "We are descendants of Abraham," they answered him, "and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can you say, 'You will become free'?"

- The drug dealer that becomes a Christian on Friday night is still a drug dealer Saturday morning
- The Alcoholic that becomes a Christian on Friday night is still an alcoholic the next day

- Mindset has to change in accordance with calling
- Who you are (Identity) weighs heavily, in Christ alone, as to who you become
- These Jews have just become Christ's followers as they are listening to Jesus, but are still....LEGALISTIC. Bound in tradition and bloodline rather than salvation and Christ's blood
- Jesus is saying, "follow me"
- They are saying, "I'm pretty good"
- Is this your attitude today?
- I'm pretty good. I'm a moral person
- I'm pretty good. Porn, Alcohol, food, list your thing...is not a problem anymore
- I'm pretty good. My parents are Christian
- I'm pretty good. I'm a good friend
- I'm pretty good.

THE TRUTH IS YOU CAN BE PRETTY GOOD RIGHT TO THE END OF YOUR LIFE AND BE SINNING BY OMISSION. NOT DOING WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED TO DO

34 Jesus responded, "Truly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

- Truth bomb from Jesus. Game changer
- 1. If you commit habitual sin, you are a slave to that sin
- 2. Slaves are sold, slaves die, slaves are not family
- 3. Children of God are family. They remain forever. This is the only formation of freedom that is truly free

Christ sets us free forever. Two parts:

1. Your justification (agape love imputed, agape love given to others)

1st John 4:8

The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

- God agape loves you
- You agape love others
- If you don't, you are not a Christian

2. Your sanctification (Entering the house of Shalom/Irene)

John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don’t let your heart be troubled or fearful.

- Jesus has given us peace. Shalom/Irene
- World gives a different version, a counterfeit of this
- Jesus' gift of PEACE kills trouble and fear
- The difference between the Agape love and the Shalom/Irene is that Agape love has to be present to identify you as a believer, but Peace, which an incredible GIFT from God to you through Jesus, is a place many of us rarely go.
- We choose...hard work. We choose food. We choose sex. We choose working out. We choose more work.
- All of these things will put you in an early grave because they are false idols, and false idols lie, and lies murder

**MISSION, WE HAVE TO CHOOSE
TO GO TO THE HOUSE OF SHALOM THIS year!!
WE NEED TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF PEACE FROM
OUR OLDER BROTHER!! BETTER DECISIONS ARE
MADE IN PEACE. HISTORY CAN BE CLEARLY
IDENTIFIED THROUGH PEACE. PRESENT AND
FUTURE CALLING CAN BE RECOGNIZED ONLY
THROUGH PEACE.**

- Mission, you know what I’m going to say next
- Prayer. Bible reading. Discipleship. Service
- These are all doorways into the House of Shalom