

What does ‘freedom’ mean and what is ‘freedom in Christ’? What makes the difference?

Jesus has said: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me’ [Matt 16:24]. Taking only this verse would make it seem that there is great cost to being a disciple of Jesus, which is correct, there is a cost. However, if you read on you will see that there is not only a benefit, but an explanation as well [v25 & 26].

It has been said, by many and often, that: ‘If a job is worth doing, it is worth doing well’. On an earthly level one could argue that the ‘Brinks Matt robbery’ and the ‘Hatton Garden heist’ were both ‘done well’, but neither were honouring to God – unless that god is greed [e.g. mammon]. Simply living is a job whether it is well done or worthy.

How do you feel when someone says you shouldn’t do something?

Paul says [v19] that he is ‘using an example from everyday’ as an illustration to aid understanding, try substituting the word ‘addiction’ or ‘craving’, ‘desire’, or similar to help put Paul’s words into a modern context.

Read Romans 6:11 - 18

1. In having freedom, are we really free? Just because we can do something it doesn’t mean we should?
2. Verse 11 states; ‘dead to sin but alive to God in Jesus Christ’. Why is this so significant? What do you understand it to mean?

3. Read verse 12 again. What do you think it means where it says: ‘do not let sin reign in your mortal body’? Is our ‘mortal body’ the only thing we need to worry about? Why or why not?
4. What is ‘an instrument of wickedness’? What would that look like in society today? How do we avoid that peril?
5. Not being a ‘captive to sin’, nor being ‘under the law’ [of Moses] but being under grace means we can do what? Is that freedom, or another form of bondage?
6. Read Matthew 25:23. What do you find is different between being the ‘good and faithful servant’, and being ‘free in Christ’?
7. Read Colossians 3:23. How does that fit with being either free or, under grace?
8. What does grace mean to you as an individual and how does grace work in a church context?
9. Verse 16 talks of offering oneself as an ‘obedient slave’. Some people, when given their freedom, would continue serving by choice because freedom was fraught with uncertainty and danger. How do you see yourself in the context of verse 16?
10. What does it mean to live in Freedom? (Gal 5:1,13). What are the things that constrain us in our lives that prevent us from Living in Freedom?

Prayer Points

Pray for the bereavement service and for all those who are attending. Pray for Brian as he leads the service and for people to find opportunities to grieve well.

Christian persecution comes in many forms: martyrdom, arrests and verbal and physical abuse. Pray for those whose lives are under threat today for sharing the love of Christ Jesus.

Sermon Notes



BIBLE STUDY

2nd November 2025

Practicing the Way:

Freedom in Christ.

Romans 6:11-18

Following Jesus has been likened to a long journey. When Jesus invited His first disciples to “follow” Him on the “way,” He was simultaneously saying that discipleship to Him is a lifelong path of learning. This series is designed to help you become more familiar with the journey of spiritual formation, help you get unstuck if you’ve stalled, or just guide you into being more confident to help others in their journey. Ultimately, its goal is to train you to live as an apprentice or disciple of Jesus: to be with Jesus, become like Him, and do as He did.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001