

Freedom – Week 2– What is the Biblical view of freedom?

Connect and review	
<p>Make sure all in the room know each other – let new ones introduce themselves</p>	<p>Review the main points from last week. Address any issues which may have arisen from last week. This week the objective is to understand what the Bible says about freedom.</p>
Inspire and engage	
<p>These notes are for a starting point – you can add your own ideas and present them in your own style.</p>	<p>Freedom is not the right to do whatever we want! It is freeing us to do what we ought to do in finding a deeper relationship with God and being the kind of people He created us to be. Spiritual freedom is an “inside” freedom – the ability to obey God and choose His will for our lives.</p> <p>There are over 100 references to freedom in the New Testament and we will explore two here. (These are suggestions, but you can allow the Holy Spirit to direct you to more).</p> <p>Romans 8:2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ has set us free, it is a free gift • Sin no longer needs to reign. <p>Colossians 3:1-17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look upward not at situations and circumstances around • Personal responsibility – put off, put on • Available to all • Gives peace • Be thankful and full of praise for all God/Jesus has done for you. <p>Sanctification is a word used to describe setting apart someone or something, to separate from, to become wholly used for God Himself. Although a word not used much today, it embodies the whole process of being set free in God. Believers are sanctified the moment they believe in Jesus - 1 Corinthians 1:2 and 6:11, but it is also progressive – 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Corinthians 3:18.</p> <p>Take one of the passages listed and discuss why we need to be set apart, separate from the world to be free in Christ.</p>
Explore and apply	
<p>These exercises are in the attendees’ notes. As you consider each in small groups or pairs allow some groups to give short feedback before moving to the next exercise.</p>	<p>Explore</p> <p>In small groups / pairs discuss:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom is not the right to do what we want but the ability to do what we ought. 2. Without Christ we are slaves to sin, unable to do what is right. 3. Christ’s death on the cross set us free from the power and penalty of sin. <p>Allow short feedback from each group.</p> <p>Apply</p> <p>What do the following passages tell us about freedom in Christ? Galatians 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17; John 8:36; Ephesians 4:22-32.</p>
Reflect and review	
<p>This area is vital to see how much has been taken on board. Make sure each one in the room (including you) has at least one action point to leave with!</p>	<p><i>Personal reflection:</i> Has my view of freedom in Christ changed after this session?</p> <p><i>Suggested activity:</i> Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal things I might need to do to gain more freedom and seek His help with changing them.</p>