

SCC SMALL GROUP FOR CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT SERIES
BEING FREE Part 2 of 8
Sunday Message - September 18, 2022

Getting Started:

Describe a time in your life when you felt the most free

Right now, which of the following areas are impacting you the most? spiritual, emotional, family, career, financial, or physical

Ask someone to read John 8:36. How would you describe the “true freedom” Jesus offers in any of the above areas?

Searching the Scriptures:

THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM (Galatians 3:22)

A. By believing in Jesus we have a promise of freedom. Romans 6:12-14 describes our part of adopting a new mindset by not giving into sinful desires, but instead giving ourselves completely to God. How have you seen this principle at work in your own life?

CHOOSING TO BE FREE

B. According to Ephesians 4:22 we can choose positive change by throwing off the old sinful nature and former way of life and instead letting the Spirit renew our thoughts and attitudes. Pastor Scott talked about our “default settings” which we tend to revert to. Can you think of one or two of these?

- C. Comment on this statement: "The key to change is having a big enough reason to change. People change when their status quo (sinful nature) becomes unacceptable or when the pain not staying the same become unbearable."
(Pastor Jason Frenn)
- D. Pastor Scott said "Lots of people want to tell you how to change but the Bible tells us why". How does Galatians 5:16-17 describe the "why"?
- E. Romans 12:2 affirms that "a renewed character is the result of renewed thinking". What are some examples of a new ways of thinking we can attempt to picture or rehearse in our minds?
- F. Pastor Scott used the example in Mark 10:51-52 of the blind man who wanted to see. Jesus asked him "what do you want me to do for you"? and commended him with the words "Go, for your faith has healed you". How does this speak to you in terms of how you approach Jesus with your own needs?

Application of the Scriptures:

- A. How does reminding yourself that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, change the way you can approach your struggles (see Romans 5:21 and 8:11-13)?
- B. What is one area of your life in which you need to rely on the power of the Spirit to be free?

For additional encouragement on this topic, check out the five day study plan: "Breaking free from habitual sin" in the YouVersion Bible app
<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/14709>