

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Galatians: Jesus + Nothing - Part 5

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Introduction

The life of believers has always involved finding freedom. God brought the Israelites out from Egypt to free them from slavery. Jesus came to save us from sin. There is not one person in the world more committed to our freedom than Jesus. In Galatians 5, Paul talks about the freedom that can only be found in Jesus and teaches how we, as Christians, are to use that freedom, serving one another through love. Living by the Spirit enables us to experience His freedom in full.

Read

Galatians 5:13-26

Discuss

1. What is your definition of freedom and how does it look for you to live in freedom?
2. Read verse 13. According to this verse, what is the relationship between freedom, and serving and humility?
3. Read verses 16-18. If we are not under the law, does that mean Christians are lawless? Without the law how do we restrain the flesh? Share your most recent experience of being at the crossroad of following the Spirit or the flesh.
4. Pastor Heather teaches that the secret to living in a freedom is neither through legalism (law) nor through licentiousness (sin), but through walking by the Spirit. Why is it that we cannot find freedom under law or sin?

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5. Pastor Heather shares a quote from Dr. Charles Stanley: "To walk by the Spirit is to live moment by moment in dependency upon Him, sensitive to his voice, and in obedience to him." How do we live by the Spirit? Why could it be challenging for us to be dependent upon, sensitive to, and obedient to Him?
6. Read John 16:13-15. What are some of the consequences of not living by the Spirit? How have you been doing in following and obeying the Spirit?

Respond

We are saved not by the law, but by His grace. His Spirit that is now in us will guide the way we live in freedom. As Christians, we have to make room for the Spirit to move in and through us. There is no substitute for the Holy Spirit - no PhD, education, experience, qualification, etc. Only by the Spirit. How can you make room for the Spirit this week? What is one routine/aspect of your daily life that you can set aside first so that you can prioritise the Spirit?