

Freedom!

Message Text: Galatians 5:1

July 4, 2010

When set free in Jesus we must not go on living as though we are still held captive.

Three things that hold us captive

1) Held Captive by guilt

2) Held Captive by reigning sin

3) Held Captive by performance

Go Deeper:

- 1) Define freedom?
- 2) What does it mean to be free in Christ? (see 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, and today's verse)
- 3) Is it possible to "pay God back"? Explain.
- 4) Why do you think we are tempted to live as if we can pay God back?
- 5) Is there anything we can do that is too great for God to forgive?
- 6) What is it about certain sins in our lives that causes us to return to them like a dog return to its vomit?
- 7) Read Romans 6:11-14, if we are genuinely dead to sin then why does it still have the ability to wreak havoc in our lives?
- 8) Why do you think we sometimes find rules and religion so appealing?
- 9) What is the relationship between religion and grace?
- 10) How would you describe the difference between religion and a relationship with Jesus Christ?
- 11) What can you do this week to stand firm in the freedom found in Christ rather than living in captivity?

Next Steps:

- I have been living in captivity to guilt. This week I will live out 1 John 1:9 by confessing my sin to God and to others if necessary and holding on to His promise of forgiveness in Christ.
- I have been living in captivity to reigning sin. This week I will re-establish my relationship with Jesus Christ, study Romans 6:11-14, ask God to help me see grace for what it really is, and claim my position as a new creation in Christ.
- I have been living in captivity to performance. This week I will focus on my relationship with Jesus and abiding in Him rather than keeping a list of rules and religious ritual.
- Write in your own: _____