

We Have Been Given Freedom!

Galatians 5:1-6

1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2 Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.

3 Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law.

4 You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.

5 For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope.

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

2 Corinthians 3:17 - Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

I. We've been given FREEDOM TO BELONG!

Rom. 8:15-17 - For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

II. We have been given FREEDOM TO SERVE!

2 Cor 3:5-6 - Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant--not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Competent (hikanos) = Able, amply sufficient, right fit

Ministers (diakinos) = Servants

III. We have been given FREEDOM TO BE GUIDED!

Rom. 8:14 - because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Psalms 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

IV. We have been given FREEDOM TO WITNESS!

Acts 1:8 – But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

V. We have been given FREEDOM TO LEARN!

John 16:13-15 - But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

Jer. 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

VI. We have been given FREEDOM TO PRAY!

Rom 8:26-27 - In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Ephesians 3:12 - 'In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence'

1John 3:21 - 'Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask'

1John 5:14 - 'This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

Mt. 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things (Physical blessings) will be given to you as well.

Thomas Lye – “I had rather stand against the cannons of the wicked than against the prayers of the righteous.”

VII. We have been given FREEDOM TO PRODUCE!

Gal 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Video: 4th of July