

“Freedom That Lasts”

John 8:31-36

July 5, 2026

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

John 8:31-36

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷ I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. ³⁸ I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

MAIN THEME

As we celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, Jesus reminds us that there is an even greater freedom available to every person. Political freedom is precious and worth celebrating, but it cannot free us from guilt, sin, fear, or death. Only Jesus Christ can do that. In John 8, Jesus teaches that true freedom is found in abiding in his Word, knowing the truth, and trusting him as Savior and Lord. The freedom Jesus offers is complete, permanent, and available to anyone who follows him.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Jesus' Freedom Is What We Need Most

John 8:31-32; Romans 6:18

- What does Jesus mean when he says that abiding in his Word is evidence of true discipleship?
- Why do you think our culture often defines freedom differently than Jesus does?
- How does knowing God's truth lead to genuine freedom?
- In what ways have you personally experienced the freedom that comes from following Christ?



2. Sin Promises Freedom but Produces Slavery

John 8:33-36; Romans 6:16-18

- Why were the Jewish leaders offended when Jesus described them as slaves?
- What are some examples of sins or struggles that often enslave people today?
- Why is willpower alone insufficient to overcome spiritual bondage?
- How does Jesus provide freedom that no self-help program or human effort can offer?

3. The Freedom Christ Gives Is Absolute and Irrevocable

John 8:35-36; Galatians 5:1

- What is the significance of Jesus comparing a slave and a son?
- How does belonging to God's family provide security and assurance?
- Why is it important to understand that salvation is based on Christ's work rather than our performance?
- How should the promise that we are "free indeed" affect the way we live each day?

4. We Must Choose Whose Voice We Will Follow

John 8:38; John 8:42-45; John 10:27

- According to Jesus, what is the connection between truth and spiritual parentage?
- What are some lies Satan commonly uses to keep people in fear, guilt, or bondage?
- How can believers better recognize and respond to the voice of Christ?
- What practical steps can you take this week to trust God's voice over the competing voices of the world?

PRAY

Dear Father, thank you for the freedoms we enjoy in our nation, but even more for the freedom found in your Son. Help us abide in your word, walk in your truth, and experience the freedom that only Jesus can provide. Free us from sin, fear, and anything that keeps us from following you wholeheartedly. May we listen to your voice and trust you more each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DIG DEEPER

For Further Study:



- Romans 6:15-23
- Galatians 5:1
- John 10:27-30
- 2 Corinthians 3:17
- Colossians 1:13-14

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

David's Success Creates Enemies
1 Samuel 18:1-30

