

20 & 27 Aug 2017

For freedom we have been set free.

Turning bondage into liberty.

What to do over the coming fortnight:

1. Pray for God to have access to your heart & to prepare you for His increase.
2. Journal your conversations with, & applications of, that which God reveals to you thru prayer over the fortnight.
3. Make a summary of your experiences with God & any changes you have been able to adopt. Share in your group.
4. Be prepared to share testimony to our church family, of God's empowering grace in your heart. Give Him glory.

Memory Verses:

Galations 5:1 "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, & do not be entangled in a yoke of bondage".

2 Cor 3:17 "Now the Lord is the Spirit & where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty".

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you, areas of your thinking that have been ambushed by 'survival thinking'. Then, Journal what He shows you.

2. a. The Holy Spirit wants to lead us out of bondage & into life & freedom.

In this area of survival thinking, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to think like He thinks & see like He sees.

* Anticipate that He will quicken a scripture to your attention. Look for this word from Him for He will speak to you thru the word of God.

This is the 'proceeding word' with which you can disentangle yourself from thinking that is robbing your increase.

b. Take the scripture He reveals to you and cross reference every version of the bible you can find to get a deep & broad insight into what God is showing you by His Spirit.

This will put the Spirit of the Word in your mind. Now when you DO according to your renewed understanding – you & the Spirit of the Word are becoming integrated together. As this happens, power to live the word and become the word will set you free from slavery; from thought patterns that are robbing you.

Romans 8:31 – 39 Tells us that it is the love of Jesus Christ, for us, that makes us more than conquerors. The love of Jesus will cause us to overcome our strongest fears, our greatest intimidations & the most intense demands.

3. a. Discuss with your group, how the love of Jesus does this for us?

b. Now, review what affect the love of Christ has in your own heart / life. Is the love of Jesus setting you free & keeping you free? If so, make a note of several examples. If not, identify where you believe you are not free & ask Jesus to empower you with His love so you can be 'more than a conqueror'.

2 Cor 3:17 (The Living Bible translation)

RELATIONSHIP IS EVERYTHING

The Lord is the Spirit who gives them life, and where He is there is freedom [from trying to be saved by keeping the laws of God].

In our natural thinking, we assume that we can earn our increase from God by obeying Him. It is faith that moves the hand of God, not works. Works are to be the result of our faith & faith is the product of our love for Him.

Freedom to love God, obey God, love others & live righteously does not come because of what we do. It comes because of how we relate – to God, & how we respond – to His love.

4. a. As a group, ask the Holy Spirit to show you what this relationship with Jesus should look like.

b. Now, ask the Holy Spirit how He would like to change the way you relate with Him.

c. Write down some new ways to accommodate what He shows you & share these with your group.

**Increase in the quality of our relationship with Jesus always precedes the increase of His blessing in our lives.
His love changes the way we see and engage life.**