

Real Freedom

April 4, 2010 Pastor Bill Bump

John 8:32 (TEV) "...you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:36 (TEV) "If the Son sets you free, then you will be really free."

WHAT CAN JESUS SET ME FREE FROM?

1. JESUS CAN SET ME FREE FROM THE PAIN OF YESTERDAY.

Most of us have two kinds of things we have a hard time getting over: resentment and regret.

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NCV) The Lord says, "Forget what happened before, and do not think about the past. Look at the new thing I am going to do."

Psalms 34:18 (NCV) The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, and he saves those whose spirits have been crushed.

Romans 3:23-24 (LB) Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious ideal; yet now God declares us "not guilty" of offending him if we trust in Jesus Christ, who in his kindness freely takes away our sins.

2. JESUS CAN SET ME FREE FROM THE PRESSURES OF TODAY.

When we are under pressure, we need two things: strength and stability.

Isaiah 40:28-29 (NLT) ...Don't you know that the Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary...He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak.

Philippians 4:13 (Ph) I'm ready for anything through the strength of Christ who lives in me.

Matthew 11:28-29 (Mes) "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest...you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

3. JESUS CAN SET ME FREE FROM PESSIMISM ABOUT TOMORROW.

Two reasons why people lose hope:

- We're facing a situation that needs to be changed and we can't change it.
- We don't know our purpose or what the future holds.

Psalms 125:1 (LB) Those who trust in the Lord are steady as Mount Zion, unmoved by any circumstance.

Isaiah 54:10 (TEV) The mountains and hills may crumble, but my love for you will never end...So says the Lord who loves you.

John 14:1-6 (NLT) “Don’t be troubled. You trust God, now trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s home, and I am going to prepare a place for you. If this were not so, I would tell you plainly. When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am...I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

WOULDN’T YOU LIKE TO LIVE YOUR LIFE WITH THESE FREEDOMS?

Revelation 3:20 (NIV) I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

SPIRITUAL SURVEY:

A = I’ve already opened my life to God’s freedom.

B = I’ve decided TODAY to open my life to God’s freedom.

C = I’m in the process of considering opening my life to God’s freedom.

D = I have no interest in having God’s freedom in my life.

We invite you to look over the verses in your sermon notes this week and ask and answer the following three questions (you are encouraged to get a notebook to record your thoughts):

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean?
3. What does the verse mean to me personally?