



## Week 5 Freedom

*Galatians 5:1, 13-15*

### *Starter*

*When have you felt the most free in your life? What were circumstances that created that freedom?*

*When you view religion and its requirements, do you see it as a source of freedom or a source of slavery? Why?*

*Many of the early Christians were Jews who had put their faith in Jesus as the Messiah, their savior. One of the greatest challenges they faced was their desire to hold on to their old religion. Even though their salvation was complete in Christ they felt they still had to abide by the law they had been given by Moses. On the other side of that you had a group of Christians who felt they were released from any moral obligation to the law they felt they could do whatever they wanted.*

*What are the fundamental flaws each of these religious philosophies? Can you observe these in our day? How? Where?"*

*Read Galatians 5:1, 13-15*

*What words or phrases stuck out to you in this passage? Why?*

*What sorts of slavery do we take upon ourselves according to this passage? Why does Paul command us to be free of them?*

*What do you think the Apostle Paul means when he tells the Galatians, "do not use your freedom to indulge in the sins of the flesh."?*

*How does this line resonate with you?*

*Have you ever seen freedom abused? What did it look like? Do you think our Jesus meant for us to use our freedom this way? Why or why not?*

*What does Paul tell the Galatians to use their freedom for? What does this look like practically?*

*What does Paul believe is the greatest use of our freedom? How can you do this in your daily life?*

*Discuss Will Willimon's remark: "At the heart of the Christian life is a holy paradox: the more securely we are tethered to Christ, the more obedient we are to his way rather than the world's ways, the more free we become. Or as Jesus put it, 'If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.'"*

*In verse 8 the writer says, "these things are excellent and profitable for everyone." why/how can these things be good for everyone?*