

[RE]CONSTRUCTING

Breaking Free

*"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free...
You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free.
But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful
nature; rather, serve one another humbly in love.
For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one
command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
Galatians 5:1, 13-14*

True Freedom

Freedom _____

*"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."
II Corinthians 3:17*

Freedom _____

*"For Christ's love compels us, because we are
convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.
And he died for all, that those who live should no
longer live for themselves but for him who died for
them and was raised again."
II Corinthians 5:14-15*

True freedom is found in the right _____.

Two Buzzwords

1. 'Christianity is _____.'

You can't know what's *toxic* 'til you know what's *true*.

2. 'Christianity is _____.'

*"When truth dies, power is all that remains."
Greg Koukl, Stand to Reason*

*"You must show that a man is wrong before you start
explaining why he is wrong."
C. S. Lewis in "Bulverism"*

[re]Construction Toolbox

gotquestions.org

Stand to Reason – str.org

The Benefit of Doubt, Craig Groeschel

The Reason for God, Timothy Keller

[Re]constructing: *Breaking Free*

Questions based on the sermon from March 30, 2025

Getting to Know Me

1. Reflecting back on this series, what's one takeaway that has really stood out to you? Why has that been meaningful to you?
2. What are some common misunderstandings about 'freedom'—both in our culture and within the church?
3. Have you ever experienced Christianity as more about rules than about grace and freedom? What was that like for you?

Digging Deeper

4. Read Galatians 5:1. How does the image of a 'yoke' help us understand the weight of sin compared to freedom in Christ? (A yoke is a wooden crosspiece that would connect two animals to one another and to the plow or cart they were pulling.)
5. Read Galatians 5:13-17 and consider the following:
 - How does Paul say we're meant to use our freedom in Christ, and what warning does he give about *misusing* it?
 - How does love fulfill the law, and what might that look like in everyday life?
 - What is the key to walking in true freedom instead of falling back into sin?
6. Pastor Phil shared that true freedom is found in the right restraints. How does 2 Corinthians 5:14–15 help us understand the loving boundaries that guide our use of freedom in Christ?

7. True freedom isn't just about what we're freed *from*—it's also about what we're freed *for*. How do Galatians 5:22–25 paint a picture of a life shaped by the Spirit and how is God growing this fruit in you right now?
8. Pastor Phil quoted Timothy Keller, who said true freedom comes from the *right* restrictions—those that lead to joy and match how we're made. What are some "liberating restrictions" in your life or faith which actually unleash more freedom?

Making it Personal:

9. What are some examples of Christian beliefs or practice which are sometimes accused of being *toxic* or *oppressive*? What, of these, can be legitimate? What is mistaken?
10. How does the CPR story help you understand that being told we're sinners isn't *abusive* or *toxic* but actually loving? How might that shape the way you talk with someone who struggles with the idea that we are sinful?
11. As your relationship with Christ has grown, where have you seen more freedom in your life? Have you let go of anything you once thought was 'freedom' but now see was holding you back?
12. Jude 22 says, "*Be merciful to those who doubt.*" How does this reveal God's heart for us when we have big faith questions?
13. What questions are still on your mind as we wrap up this series?

Prayer:

Read Luke 4:18, where Jesus quotes Isaiah 61:1. Take a moment to thank the Lord for fulfilling His purpose through the cross, and spend time praying for those still in need of healing, freedom, and restoration.

We exist to glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

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True freedom is found in the right RESTRAINTS.

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2. 'Christianity is **OPPRESSIVE**.'

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