



**Series:** Life in the Favor of Jesus  
**Passage** Galatians 5:1, 10-15  
**Title** The Proper Use of Freedom  
**Speaker:** David Menard 10/30/2016

**Discussion Starter** How would you describe to someone in your own words what it means to be called to freedom as a son or daughter of God?

**You brethren have been *Called to Freedom*:** (Galatians 5:1, 5:10-15)

**1. Free from the burden of measuring up to a standard:**

- When we fall into the trap of trying to earn our own worth by striving to measure up to some standard we will often exhibit undesirable behaviors like arrogance, self-aggrandizing, and being judgmental / critical towards others. Discuss some of the reasons why self-righteousness fosters these behaviors.
- When we truly accept righteousness as a gift from Jesus we quit trying to impress others. How does receiving this gift make it much easier for us to love people just as they are – faults and all?
- In what areas of your life are you free in Christ?
- What are the areas in your life where you are still trying to earn your worth / righteousness (and therefore not free)?

**2. Free from being separated from God:**

- In what ways does sin separate a person from God?
- Christians are free from this separation and have full access to God through Jesus work on the cross. What are the benefits of having full access to God?

**3. Free from the Justice of God:**

- We know that God is a God of justice and therefore He must punish all sin. In what way are we free from the justice of God?
- What are the joys and benefits of being free from God's justice?

**Freedom *FROM* Sin – Not Freedom *TO* Sin** (Galatians 5:10–15)

- What does Paul mean in 5:13, "***Do not use liberty*** (our freedom in Jesus) ***as an opportunity for the flesh***?"
- Compare Galatians 5:1 and 5:13. What two **different** misuses of gospel freedom does Paul spell out? Discuss the damaging effects that each misuse brings upon our lives?
- 5:10: Why was Paul so confident that the Galatians would properly grow and mature from their errant desire to be self-righteous? How are you encouraged by this verse?
- 5:13 "***Through love serve one another.***" Discuss some practical ways we are to use the generous freedoms we have in Christ to serve others in love? (show forgiveness, be gracious, be generous, keep no record of wrong, rejoice in what is good, etc.)
- What are the benefits of using our Christian freedom in this intended manner?