



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: Freedom [John 8:31-57]

## GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

Discuss a time where you felt the most “free”? Why? When have you felt the least free? Why?

## QUICK REACTIONS

- How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?
- What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?
- Did you disagree with something said, or what do you think should have been added or expanded on?

## QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

*Jesus defines true freedom; 1. It is expressed in dependence, not independence, 2. is liberation from the institution of our sin nature, and is connected to the eternal, not the temporal.*

How does this contradict how our culture defines freedom?

In what way is Jesus’ definition less of a burden for us?

What would it mean for you to orient your life in a way that reflects this kind of freedom?

## EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [John 8:31-57]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.)

What did Jesus say to the Jews who had believed in Him? (8:31)

How did the Jews respond to Jesus’ statement about freedom? (8:33)

Who did Jesus say is a slave to sin? (8:34)

How does Jesus distinguish a slave from a son? (8:35)

What is the result of being freed by the Son? (8:36)

What did Jesus say the Jews were ready to do? (8:37)

In what way were the Jews mistaken about Abraham? (8:39)

What did Abraham not do? (8:40)

What did Jesus say the Jews would do if God were their Father? (8:42)

What shocking fact did Jesus reveal about His audience? (8:44)

What is the devil’s native language? (8:44)

Of what did Jesus say the devil was the father? (8:44)

What did Jesus say that the person who belonged to God heard? (8:47)

How did Jesus respond to the accusation against Him? (8:49)

What did Jesus say would be the result of keeping His word? (8:51)

What question did the Jews ask Jesus? (8:53)

\*Whom did Jesus claim to know? (8:55)

What made Abraham rejoice? (8:56)

Before whom did Jesus claim He had existed? (8:58)

What did the Jews attempt to do to Jesus? Why? (8:58-59)

## QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

How are you like your mother or father? (traits/characteristics that have been passed down)

How does sin make us a slave?

What does it mean to be set free?

How does truth set someone free?

How has the Son set you free?

In what way can we act like “illegitimate children”?

In what way is Jesus claiming to be God?

## APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about as a result of engaging with this passage?

How can we pray for each other?