



Set Free

Focus To see people saved, healed, **set free**, disciplined, equipped, empowered and serving.

Open What is one thing you wish you never had to do again?

Read Jesus came not just to offer forgiveness to those who believe in Him, but to set them free. John 8:31-36 explains that those who are believers and abide in the Word “*will know the truth,*” and “*the truth will set [them] free.*” Jesus said that anyone who sins in a perpetual or ongoing way is in bondage to sin. Bondage is any impulsive or compulsive behavior that restricts us from walking in freedom and enjoying the blessings available through Christ.

We become free from the *penalty* of sin when we are saved, but we still need to be set free from the *power* of sin. We must yield to the influence of the Holy Spirit and not to the influence of the sin. It is possible for believers to be in bondage. It is easy to be set free if we will admit that we are in bondage and humbly come to Jesus.

- Talk**
1. What does it mean to be “free”?
 2. What are some examples of attitudes or behaviors from which we might need to be set free?
 3. Read John 8:31-36, 1 John 3:8, Mark 9:23, and Luke 4:18. What is our role in becoming free in Christ? What is Jesus’ role?

4. What can keep us from becoming free? Why?
5. How does yielding to the influence of the Holy Spirit lead to freedom?
6. Describe an area in your life in which you have experienced freedom through Jesus. In what way is your life different now?

Live

1. What area of bondage (recurring sin) exists in your life that you need to admit to Jesus so you can be set free? (*You do not need to share it with the group unless you would like to do so.*) Write down what comes to mind.
2. What will you do, after admitting your area of bondage to Jesus, to pursue freedom in this area? (For example, you could confess it to a trusted friend, read a book, attend a class, or meet with a counselor.) What will you do this week?

Pray

Get into groups of two or three and pray for one another. Admit to the Lord that you are in bondage and ask Him to set you free. Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead each of you into truth. Invite Him to speak to your hearts and commit to yield to His influence. Thank Jesus for making a way for you to live in freedom.

For more information about Freedom Ministry at Gateway Church, visit www.gatewaypeople.com, click on the "Ministries" tab, and look under "Spiritual Growth."

Selected Freedom Ministry classes are also available via audio and video streaming on the Gateway Church website, under the "Media" tab.