

Sermon Discussion Questions

True Freedom

Galatians 5:22-23

December 11, 2016

1. At what stage in life did you feel the freest in your life? Share your story.
2. Jeremy started the sermon stating that even though freedom is a high value in people's lives, few seem to find true freedom.
 - a. What enslaves people?
 - i. Do you know anyone who wants to be free, or thinks they are, but you see that they are stuck or held captive?
 - b. What enslaves Christians?
 - i. How has Jesus's words in John 8:36 been experienced in your life? How have you struggled to know the freedom He offers?
3. The last three fruits were covered in the sermon – faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Did you glean any insight into any of those three that you could share?
 - a. Faithfulness (trustworthy) – How is this a struggle for Christians?
 - b. Gentleness (calm) – How can this fruit be misunderstood? How do these passages help us understand this fruit better (Eph. 4:1-3; James 3:13; 1 Peter 3:3-4, 15)?
 - c. Self-control (victorious) – How has the Holy Spirit in you given you victory over sin in your life?
4. The Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 is not an exhaustive list. Read Colossians 3:12-17 and discuss what other ways that passage tells us the Holy Spirit grows spiritual fruit in our lives.
 - a. Remember the Cullinan Diamond illustration – 9 diamonds cut from one diamond, and many facets cut in each diamond? Brainstorm together other facets of the Holy Spirit's work to form Christ in us that would reflect His beauty in the lives of Christians.
 - b. Share how Jesus shines in each of us in the HDG.
 - i. How can we know this is Christ in us, and not just good character qualities that we could see in any "good" person?
5. Galatians 4:19 states that the Apostle Paul labored with the desire that Christ would be formed in the Christians in Galatia.
 - a. In what ways do you think we need to labor for the same goal?
 - b. According to Galatians 6:1-2 who is supposed to labor for the spiritual health of others? And what does that passage tell us about how to do it? How are you doing with this admonition?