



Does The Truth Make Us Free?

John 8:32

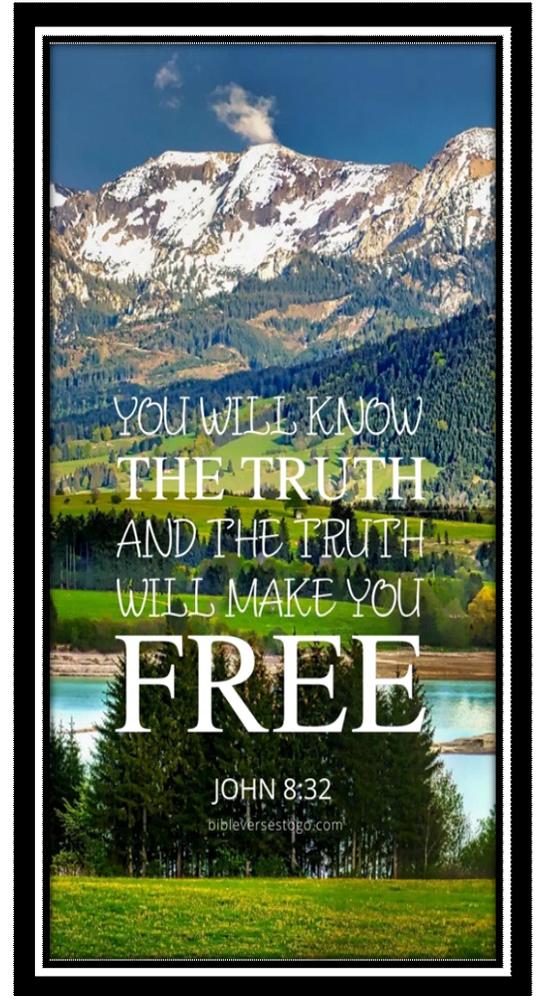
In a world saturated with half-truths, curated identities, and spiritual confusion, Jesus' words in **John 8:32** ring out with piercing clarity: ***“And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”*** (ESV). But about what kind of truth is Jesus talking? And what kind of freedom does it offer?

This verse is often quoted in political speeches, academic settings, and personal affirmations—but its original context is far more radical. Jesus isn't speaking about intellectual enlightenment or social liberation. He's addressing a deeper bondage: slavery to sin. Just before this verse, Jesus says to the Jews who believed in Him, ***“If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples.”*** (John 8:31). The truth that sets us free isn't abstract—it's relational and revelatory. It's the truth of who Jesus is, what He teaches, and how He transforms. And it's only accessed through abiding—remaining in His word, walking in His ways.

But why do we need freedom? Because sin enslaves. Not in obvious ways, but in subtle ones. We become bound to patterns of pride, fear, addiction, resentment, and self-reliance. These invisible prisons convince us we're in control, even as they tighten their grip. Jesus exposes this reality: ***“Everyone who sins is a slave to sin.”*** (John 8:34). The truth doesn't flatter—it liberates by confronting what's killing us.

Freedom in Christ isn't merely the absence of guilt—it's the presence of grace. It's not just being forgiven; it's being transformed. The truth Jesus offers reveals our need, but also our worth. It shows us the depth of our brokenness, but also the height of His mercy. It's the truth that we are loved, pursued, and invited into a new way of living. This kind of truth doesn't just inform—it reforms. It breaks chains. It silences shame. It empowers obedience. And it's not a one-time revelation—it's a daily walk. As we continue in His word, we grow in freedom. As we surrender to His Spirit, we walk in truth. Are you walking in the truth today?

Gary



Whose Child Am I?

John 8.37, 38

- 1) Could you imagine being in a prison that has no bars, no guards, and no visible walls?
- 2) Do we walk through life chained to habits we hate, thoughts that accuse, and wounds that never seem to heal?
- 3) Since the walls are unseen, we convince ourselves we're free.
- 4) Are we ready to walk out of the cell Christ has already unlocked?

I) Do I Have _____ Faith (John 8.31, 32)?

A) Do you know the difference between _____ faith and _____ faith?

- 1) Jesus says a genuine disciple holds to His teaching (John 8.31).
- 2) Perseverance is the mark of true faith.

B) To possess true faith, I must be united with _____, the _____ (8.32).

- 1) True disciples not only hear His words, but they must also be united with Him.
- 2) Jesus says we must come to Him if freedom is to be enjoyed.

II) Do My _____ Reveal That I Am A _____ To _____?

A) If Jesus is offering freedom, the assumption is that the Jews are currently slaves.

- 1) The Jews emphatically denied they were slaves to anyone.
- 2) What about...?

B) Everyone who _____ is a _____ to sin (8.33, 34).

- 1) This does not mean committing a single, isolated act of sin, but rather living a life of sin.
- 2) The continual practice of sin proves one is a slave to sin.

C) What is the _____ of slaves (8.35, 36)?

- 1) The Jews thought of themselves as sons of Abraham, but in reality, they are slaves (to sin).
- 2) Jesus has the power to _____ slaves.

III) Do I Know Whose _____ I Am?

A) Am I acting like my _____ (8.39-41)?

- 1) Paternity in the spiritual realm is determined by right _____, right _____, and transparent _____.
- 2) What makes me a child of God (I John 5.1)?
- 3) The Jews were acting like their father, the _____ (8.38, 41, 44).

B) The Jews accused Jesus of being a _____ and being _____ (8.48).

C) Do I desire _____ from others (8.50, 54)?

D) Will I “_____” (8.52)?

E) Whose child am I?

- 1) Jesus knows whose His is.
- 2) Jesus again expresses His _____ (8.58).

Conclusion: *Do I have true faith today?*

C O N N E C T I O N

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Good morning, Western Hills! It's a time of endings and beginnings, isn't it? End of summer, beginning of school, for first year college students and their parents, is the end of a significant chapter of life and the beginning of a new one. It is the end of our summer class quarter and the beginning of the new fall quarter on the first Sunday of September. And with that in mind, I want to thank David Birdow for teaching our Sunday auditorium class this last quarter and welcome Geoff Rodman as the new teacher for the coming quarter. Also, it is the end of our Wednesday night Summer Series, and we will soon be beginning our next round of Small Groups. We have two host families so far and would like to have at least 1 or two more, so please contact me soon if you are willing and able to fulfill that need.



For our last Summer Series "Looking UP!" speaker, we welcome Elios Hinojos from the North Texas church of Christ in the Alliance Airport area of North Ft Worth.



Elios, or Eli as he prefers to be called, graduated high school in Presidio, TX and then joined the US Navy and served for 5 years. He went on to further his education, receiving his bachelor's degree in Bible and Ministry, as well as a master's degree in education. He has had a keen interest in teaching Christ to those in military service over the years and began preaching full time in 2002. He has served as the minister for the North Texas congregation since 2020. He and his wife, Blanca, have been married for 26 years and have three adult children. Their son, following in Eli's footsteps, is currently serving in the US Navy. Be sure to be here Wednesday and hear Eli complete our Summer Series wrap up, you'll be blessed!



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Ladies'

Come to Ladies Night

September 22 for an evening of laughter and fun!

Watch the bulletin for more details or see Jennifer Scott!

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SHEPHERDS

*Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Tom Pauley	817- 370-5515
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

*Shepherd of the month

MINISTERS

Gary Williams:	662-321-3208
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Les Keele:	817-808-0566
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
James Bowie:	817-944-4492
<i>Youth Minister</i>	

LAOTIAN MINISTRY

John Boudtaroth	817-891-2132
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DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	972-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Steven Johnson

Song Leader - Jon Bartee

Song - I Will Call Upon The Lord

Song - Redeemed

Song - Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Opening Prayer - Ben Meyer

Scripture - John 8:37-38

Song - Thomas Song

Lord's Supper - Russ Jones

Prayer for Contribution - Russ Jones

Song - Our God He is Alive

Whose Child Am I? - Gary Williams

Song - A Wonderful Savior

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Greg Ball

Our Code for Tithe.ly

Giving



QR Code for

Attendance



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, August 25

Ezra 9-10; Psalm 32

Tuesday, August 26

Psalm 15; Job 1-3

Wednesday, August 27

Job 4-6; Psalm 6

Thursday, August 28

Job 7-9; Psalm 38

Friday, August 29

Psalm 39; Job 10-12

Saturday, August 30

Psalm 25; Job 13-14

Sunday, August 31

Psalm 69; Job 15-16

Last Week

Bible Class	135	Wednesday	109
Worship	249	Contribution	\$ 9,282.72
PM Worship	48	Budget	\$ 14,216.88

Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM