



In the most definitive way possible, Paul tells us that Jesus' mission was an operation of liberation. If we're not careful however, our freedom in Jesus can slip through our fingers and become either *legalism* or *license*. Paul sets out to show us how to live and experience our freedom.

- Read Galatians 5:1-15

### REFLECT (10 Minutes)

How would you describe the effect of this week's sermon on you? Was there anything new or interesting that grabbed you from the teaching Sunday?

### DIG DEEPER (20-30 Minutes)

In Galatians 5:1-15, Paul deals with extreme poles of legalism and license. In the end he calls for a alternative position of freedom in Christ.

Legalism is not an outright denial of Jesus; rather, it is an addition of certain works to Jesus in order to secure a better standing with God. In what ways would you say you struggle with legalism?

License is a way of thinking that seeks to celebrate freedom in Christ by doing away with any standard of holy living. In what ways do you think license exists in your life?

In light of the two poles how would you describe biblical liberty, or freedom in Christ, as different?

When Christian freedom is rightly understood and properly lived out, it leads to a life of fruitful service to God and others. However, if it is abused it leads to a life of frustrating selfishness.

- In what practical everyday ways would you say Christian freedom is abused in the North American church?
- According to Galatians 5:6; 13-14, what is the goal and end result of Christian freedom?
- How does Romans 13:8-10 describe this "new law" under which believers are able to operate?

### RESPOND (10-15 Minutes)

Read Galatians 5:14.

Paul turns the world's idea of freedom on its head. He instructs us to use our freedom to serve and love others.

- In your experience, how does one become free to serve others? In what situations this week have you found it hard to love others? In what ways have you found yourself set free by the spirit in order to love others?

What is your one take away from this time together?

### PRAY (10 Minutes)

Take some time to pray for one another. Pray that God would shape your mind, your heart, and your life by the Gospel. Pray that the Gospel (the good news of Jesus alone) would become more clear to you through this sermon series and that as it becomes more clear it would shape and form your life more fully.

### LEADER NOTES

These questions are a guide; feel free to use/exclude ones as people may have already answered the question or talked about the theme OR if your group takes a long time to tackle one particular theme it's ok to skip over questions in the interest of time/focus.