

# **Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study**

## **The Truth Will Set You Free**

Week of March 29, 2020 A.D.

The definition of “freedom” includes the following: “the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action; liberation from the power of another; the state of being exempt from something onerous”. Freedom is at the very heart of the gospel. Without freedom, it is impossible for a person to enjoy a love relationship with Christ. Let’s talk about that in this lesson.

### **Read John 8:31 – 32**

1. Are you a follower of Jesus Christ? Do you hold to the teachings of Christ? Do you enjoy absolute freedom in your life? If not, what specifically has restricted your freedom? If you do enjoy absolute freedom, please explain why and explain how that freedom feels.

### **Read 1 John 4:16 – 18**

2. Does God live in you? Do you live in the love of God? What does it mean to be fearful or to live in fear of someone or something? Does God want, enable, and expect every follower of Christ to live without fear? If not, why not? If so, why and how? Please explain each of your answers.

### **Read John 20:19 – 20**

3. Were the disciples fearful or courageous after the crucifixion of Jesus? If they were fearful, was their fear justified? Please explain the reasoning for your answers.

### **Read Acts 4:5 – 13**

4. Why were the disciples courageous after the resurrection of Jesus? Does God enable all followers of Christ to be courageous? If not, why not? If so, how and for what purpose(s)? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

### **Read Hebrews 13:5 – 6**

5. What does the “love of money” have to do with (a) our intimacy with God? and (b) being able to say, “what can man do to me”? Do you believe that God will never leave you or forsake you? If you do not, why not? If you do, please explain why.

6. In your opinion, are the people of America more afraid of (a) living without money? or (b) living without God? Please explain the reasons for your answers.
7. In your opinion, what do the American people value more: (a) their freedom to worship Christ and proclaim the gospel? or (b) their health, their safety, and their financial security? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

**Read Job 1:6 – 22**

8. Can Satan do anything on planet earth without God permitting or allowing it to happen? Has God permitted and/or allowed the coronavirus to affect the inhabitants of planet earth? If not, why not? If so, in your opinion, why? Please explain.
9. Read Job 1:22. In your opinion, please state whether each of the following groups of people in America are seeking guidance from God during the coronavirus pandemic: (a) news media, (b) corporate leaders, (c) federal, state, and local government, (d) people investing in the stock market, (e) medical professionals, (f) our general population, and (g) the churches. Please explain the reasons for each answer.
10. What do your answers to question 9 tell you about the faith and trust that America has in Jesus Christ? Please explain your answer.

**Read Matthew 10:24 – 39**

11. Did the disciples of Jesus suffer persecution? Do Christians around the world suffer persecution? Do you believe that Christians in America will ever suffer persecution? Please explain your answers.

**Read Romans 8:28 – 30**

12. Please explain in practical ways how the followers of Christ may demonstrate the reality of these verses in their daily lives during the coronavirus crisis.

**Consider:** God has allowed the coronavirus to slow down the activity of our entire planet. There can be only one reason: to call the church to action and revival. Every Christian is an ambassador for Christ. We are God's chosen instruments for the proclaiming of God's love and redemption on planet earth. The purpose of the church is to "go and make disciples of all nations." The only hope for America (and the world) is Christ. "You think about that." Amen.