



NATIONAL GARDEN OF THE FOUNDERS



STATION 4

THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY

*Christ Frees the Heart
and Transforms the Meaning of Liberty*

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free,"
"ye shall be free indeed."*

JOHN 8:36

FAITH

MORALITY

LAW

EDUCATION

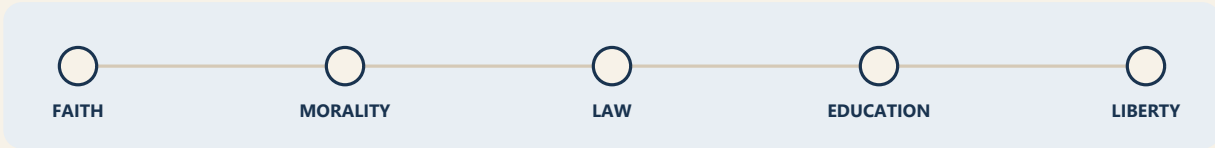
LIBERTY

FAITH / MORALITY / LAW / EDUCATION / LIBERTY

STATION OVERVIEW

Christ Frees the Heart

and Transforms the Meaning of Liberty



FOUNDATION

Jesus Christ is Creator, Redeemer, and Lord. Through His death and resurrection, He frees sinners from the guilt and power of sin and gathers a covenant people from every nation.

GOSPEL TRUTH

Christianity is not primarily a political program or a plan for building an earthly kingdom. It is the good news that Jesus Christ saves sinners, gives new hearts, reconciles people to God, and makes them citizens of His heavenly kingdom.

KEY SCRIPTURE

“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”

JOHN 8:36

CONTRIBUTIONS

Spiritual liberty; equality before God; the worth of every person; moral transformation; the freedom of conscience under God; love of neighbor; care for the weak; teaching of truth; and liberty used in service to others.

PAGE THREAD

Faith in Christ transforms the heart. Transformed hearts produce morality. Moral truth shapes law. Truth must be taught. Faith, character, and knowledge help preserve liberty.

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THE THREAD

Faith in Christ transforms the heart. Transformed hearts produce morality. Moral truth shapes law. Truth must be taught. Faith, character, and knowledge help preserve liberty.

STATION 4 / 01

The Big Idea

FAITH

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LIBERTY

The rise of Christianity introduced the ancient world to a deeper understanding of freedom. Rome possessed laws, courts, citizenship, philosophy, roads, armies, and impressive public institutions. Roman citizens could enjoy important legal privileges. But those freedoms were strongly connected to social and legal status. Enslaved people, for example, were treated under Roman law as property and lacked basic personal rights. [British Museum](#)

Jesus Christ spoke of a bondage that could reach emperors and slaves, rich and poor, citizens and foreigners alike:

“Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”

JOHN 8:34

Christ taught that a person could possess political privilege and still be enslaved inwardly by pride, greed, hatred, lust, fear, bitterness, or unbelief. He also taught that a person could be imprisoned by an earthly ruler and yet possess a freedom no government could take away. Christian liberty begins with freedom from sin through Jesus Christ.

But it does not end there.

Christ frees people so they can love God, speak truth, govern their desires, forgive their enemies, serve their neighbors, care for the weak, resist evil, and obey God with courage. Christian liberty is not permission to do whatever the sinful heart desires. It is the freedom to become what God created us to be.

The gospel also brought together people whom the ancient world often kept apart. Jews and Gentiles, men and women, masters and servants, wealthy patrons and poor laborers entered the same churches, heard the same Scriptures, received the same baptism, confessed the same Lord, and came to the same table.

The New Testament did not claim that every earthly distinction immediately disappeared. It declared something deeper: no race, class, sex, title, citizenship, or social position gives one person greater access to salvation or greater worth before God.

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

GALATIANS 3:28

Christianity therefore transformed the idea of liberty from the privilege of a particular social class into a spiritual gift offered to people of every nation and condition.

You Have Heard It Said...

"Freedom means no one can tell me what to do."

Jesus gives a different answer.

"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

JOHN 8:31-32

Freedom does not come from escaping truth. Freedom comes from knowing the truth, being forgiven by Christ, and learning to live under His loving authority. A train is free to travel when it remains upon its track. A fish is free when it remains in water. A garden flourishes when it receives sunlight, water, care, and healthy boundaries.

In the same way, human beings flourish when they live according to the truth of the One who made them. Sin removes the guardrails and promises freedom, but the road ends in bondage. Christ forgives the sinner, restores the heart, and leads His people into life.

From Sinai to Christ

At Mount Sinai, God revealed His holy character and gave His people a written moral law. The law taught Israel to worship God alone, honor parents, protect life, keep marriage faithful, respect property, speak truth, and guard the heart against covetousness. It showed what love for God and neighbor should look like. But the law also exposed a deeper problem.

Human beings do not merely need better rules. We need changed hearts. Written law can tell a person not to steal, but it cannot remove greed. It can forbid murder, but it cannot remove hatred. It can condemn adultery, but it cannot create purity. It can punish outward wrongdoing, but it cannot reconcile the sinner to God.

The prophets therefore promised a new covenant in which God would forgive sin and write His law upon the hearts of His people.

*"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts;
and will be their God, and they shall be my people."*

JEREMIAH 31:33

Jesus did not come to destroy the moral truth revealed in the Law and the Prophets.

*“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets:
I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.”*

MATTHEW 5:17

Christ fulfilled God’s promises. He bore the penalty of sin, rose from the dead, sent the Holy Spirit, and began forming a people whose obedience would flow from faith and love rather than mere outward pressure.

Sinai showed the standard. Christ changes the heart.

A Gospel Guardrail

This station is not saying that Christianity exists merely to produce better citizens or stronger governments. Jesus did not die simply to reform Roman society. He died to save sinners and reconcile them to God.

The church is not the civil government, and the civil government is not the church. Government may restrain violence, punish wrongdoing, protect the innocent, and preserve public order. It cannot forgive sin, create faith, regenerate the heart, or force anyone into the kingdom of God. Jesus said:

“My kingdom is not of this world.”

JOHN 18:36

His kingdom advances through the gospel, the Word of God, the work of the Holy Spirit, faithful witness, sacrificial service, and love - not through forced conversion. The first Christians possessed no army, throne, treasury, or political office from which to command the Roman world. They preached Christ, formed churches, cared for one another, taught their children, served their neighbors, and often suffered for refusing to worship the emperor or deny their Lord.

Christians and institutions bearing the Christian name have not always lived according to Christ’s teaching. At times, they have pursued power, tolerated injustice, coerced conscience, or contradicted the gospel they professed. The standard of Christianity is not every action committed in its name.

The standard is Jesus Christ and His Word.

STATION 4 / 02

FAITH

FAITH

MORALITY

LAW

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LIBERTY

Jesus Christ Is Lord

The central confession of the early church was simple and revolutionary: Jesus Christ is Lord. In the Roman world, emperors received extraordinary honor, and imperial worship could express political loyalty. Christians were commanded to respect governing authorities, pay what they owed, pray for rulers, and live peaceably. But they could not give Caesar the worship that belonged to God.

Jesus taught:

*“Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s;
and unto God the things that are God’s.”*

MATTHEW 22:21

Caesar had a legitimate but limited claim. He could collect taxes, administer courts, and preserve civil order. He could not claim the human soul, redefine good and evil, command idolatry, or take the place of God.

The coin bore Caesar’s image.

The human person bears God’s image.

This distinction placed a moral boundary around political authority. Government was not rejected, but neither was it worshiped.

PLAIN LESSON

Civil authority is real, but it is not absolute. Christ alone is Lord of the conscience.

Salvation Is Received, Not Earned

The gospel announced that salvation could not be purchased with wealth, inherited through social position, or earned through human achievement.

*“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God:
Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

This destroyed spiritual boasting.

- The rich could not buy a higher place before God.	- The powerful could not command salvation.
- The educated could not reason their way into righteousness.	- The poor were not forgotten.
- The enslaved were not beneath the reach of grace.	

Every person stood before God as a sinner in need of mercy. Every believer received forgiveness through the same Savior.

PLAIN LESSON

At the foot of the cross, no person can boast of being better, more valuable, or more deserving than another.

One People from Many Nations

At Pentecost, people from many regions heard the apostles proclaim the works of God in their own languages. About three thousand received the message and were baptized. They continued in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, prayer, and the breaking of bread. They shared with those in need and lived as a new covenant community.

READ

Acts 2:1-47.

Pentecost did not erase nations or languages. It demonstrated that the gospel could cross every national, ethnic, and cultural boundary. Christian unity was not based upon having the same ancestry, social class, language, or political citizenship. It was based upon belonging to the same Savior.

STORY LESSON

Christ gathers people from many nations without requiring them to worship one earthly ruler or surrender their identity to the state.

PLAIN LESSON

Faith in Christ gives believers a loyalty higher than race, class, party, or nation while teaching them to love the people and places God has given them.

STATION 4 / 03

MORALITY

FAITH

MORALITY

LAW

EDUCATION

LIBERTY

Christ Changes Conduct by Changing the Heart

The morality of Christianity begins inwardly. Jesus did not teach that outward conduct was unimportant. He taught that outward wrongdoing grows from the heart.

- | | |
|--|--|
| - Murder grows from hatred. | - Adultery grows from lust. |
| - Theft grows from greed. | - False witness grows from dishonesty. |
| - Cruelty grows from pride and lack of love. | |

Christ therefore calls His followers not merely to avoid public crimes but to become truthful, merciful, pure, humble, forgiving, courageous, and self-controlled.

“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good.”

LUKE 6:45

Government can punish an act of violence after it occurs. It cannot remove hatred from the human heart.

Only God can give a new heart.

The Moral Revolution of the Sermon on the Mount

Jesus taught His followers:

“Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.”

MATTHEW 5:44

This did not mean pretending evil was good or refusing to protect the innocent. It meant that Christians were not to become controlled by hatred, revenge, or cruelty.

They were to resist evil without becoming evil.

They were to seek justice without worshiping vengeance.

They were to tell the truth about their enemies while still remembering that enemies are human beings made in the image of God. Jesus also taught His disciples to reconcile with others, keep their promises, give without seeking praise, forgive those who repent, treat others as they wished to be treated, and build their lives upon His words. These teachings formed an inward morality essential to self-government.

A person who cannot govern anger, appetite, greed, pride, or deceit will eventually require greater outward restraint. A person trained in truth, love, courage, and self-control is better prepared to live responsibly in freedom.

PLAIN LESSON

Political self-government depends upon personal self-government, and personal self-government begins in the heart.

Human Worth and the Weak

Christianity carried forward the biblical truth that every person is made in God's image. It added the astonishing truth that the eternal Son of God took upon Himself human flesh. Jesus welcomed children, touched people considered unclean, spoke with social outcasts, praised humble faith, defended the wrongly condemned, and identified loving service toward "the least" with service offered to Him.

The early Christian Didache, generally dated to the early Christian period, taught believers to follow the "way of life" by loving God and neighbor. It condemned murder, adultery, theft, false witness, abortion, and the killing of newborn infants. [New Advent](#) These convictions challenged the idea that human worth depends upon strength, usefulness, health, age, wealth, citizenship, or power.

PLAIN LESSON

The strong do not create the value of the weak. Human worth comes from God.

The Fruit of the Spirit

Christian morality is not merely a list of things forbidden. It produces positive character.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

GALATIANS 5:22-23

These virtues strengthen every part of life.

- Love strengthens families.	- Truthfulness strengthens business and courts.
- Self-control restrains violence and corruption.	- Patience strengthens communities.
- Faithfulness makes promises dependable.	- Gentleness places strength under moral control.
- Goodness turns liberty toward service.	

GARDEN LESSON

Fruit does not appear because someone paints it onto the branches. Healthy fruit grows from a living root. In the same way, lasting morality cannot be painted onto a society through slogans alone. Good fruit grows where hearts are rooted in truth and transformed by God.

STATION 4 / 04

LAW

FAITH

MORALITY

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Christ Fulfilled the Law

Jesus summarized God's moral law in two great commandments:

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

MATTHEW 22:37, 39

Love does not replace moral truth with emotion. Biblical love protects life, honors marriage, respects property, speaks truth, keeps promises, shows mercy, and refuses to use another person for selfish gain. Paul explained:

"Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."

ROMANS 13:10

A law against theft says, “Do not take what belongs to your neighbor.” Love goes further and says, “Work honestly, protect your neighbor’s property, return what was entrusted to you, and give generously when your neighbor is in need.” A law against murder says, “Do not unlawfully take innocent life.”

Love goes further and says, “Protect life, restrain violence, care for the vulnerable, and refuse to nurture hatred.”

PLAIN LESSON

Just law establishes necessary boundaries. Christian love teaches people to seek their neighbor’s good within those boundaries.

Government Is Necessary but Limited

The New Testament teaches respect for lawful civil authority. Romans 13 describes government as responsible for restraining wrongdoing and praising what is good. First Peter tells believers to honor lawful authority. First Timothy tells Christians to pray for rulers so people may live quiet and peaceable lives. But Scripture never makes government the highest authority.

When rulers commanded the apostles to stop speaking about Jesus, Peter answered:

“We ought to obey God rather than men.”

ACTS 5:29

This was not a declaration that every person may disobey any law he dislikes. It was a declaration that no ruler may rightfully command what God forbids or forbid what God commands. The Christian should obey lawful authority, seek peace, accept responsibility, and suffer patiently when necessary. But the Christian cannot worship the state, deny Christ, murder the innocent, speak a commanded lie, or surrender the conscience to a human ruler.

Supporting Story - Peter and John Before the Council

Peter and John healed a man and publicly preached the resurrection of Jesus. The authorities ordered them not to speak or teach in Christ’s name. The apostles did not respond with violence. They did not gather an army or attempt to seize the government. They respectfully declared that they could not stop speaking about what they had seen and heard.

They accepted the danger of their decision and continued their witness.

READ

Acts 4:1-31 and Acts 5:17-42.

STORY LESSON

Liberty of conscience does not mean freedom from consequences. It means remaining faithful to God even when obedience is costly.

Equality and Impartial Justice

The early churches were warned not to show favoritism toward the wealthy. James described a gathering in which a richly dressed man was given a place of honor while a poor man was pushed aside. He condemned that partiality as sin.

“But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin.”

JAMES 2:9

This principle applied beyond church seating. A person’s clothing, title, income, race, nationality, or influence must not determine the truth of his case or the value of his life. Christianity did not instantly remove every social inequality or end slavery throughout the Roman world. Christians themselves did not always act consistently with their own doctrine.

But the gospel planted a powerful truth: the master and the servant answer to the same Lord. Paul told Christian masters that they also had a Master in heaven and that there was no respect of persons with Him. He asked Philemon to receive Onesimus “not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved.”

In a society where enslaved people could be treated under law as property without personal rights, the recognition of a servant as a beloved brother carried profound moral meaning. [British Museum](#)

PLAIN LESSON

The law should not ask whether a person is powerful. It should ask what is true and just.

STATION 4 / 05

EDUCATION

FAITH

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Christianity Is a Teaching Faith

Jesus was repeatedly called Teacher.

He taught in synagogues, homes, fields, boats, streets, and the Temple. He taught individuals, families, crowds, rulers, laborers, religious leaders, women, men, and children. Before ascending into heaven, He commanded His disciples:

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...”

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

The Great Commission is not merely a command to gain converts. It is a command to make disciples by teaching truth and training people to obey Christ. The early church therefore became a community of teaching.

- The apostles preached publicly and from house to house.	- Christian letters were read aloud to congregations.
- Parents taught children.	- Older believers trained younger believers.
- Church leaders were required to be able to teach.	- New believers learned Christian doctrine and moral conduct before and after baptism.

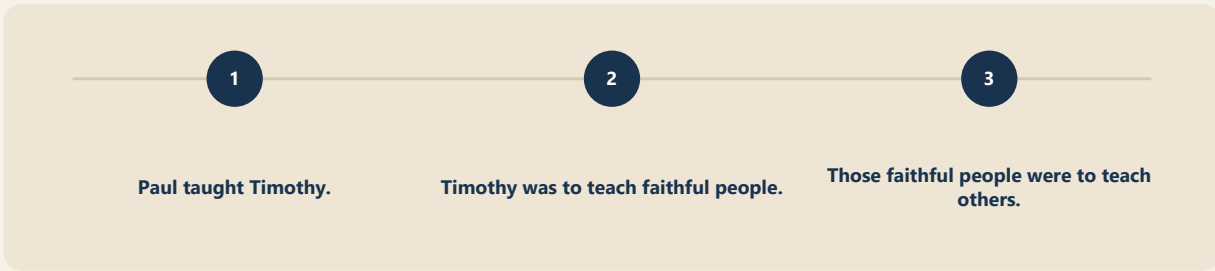
Truth Must Be Passed Forward

Paul told Timothy:

*“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses,
the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”*

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

Four generations of teaching appear in this one verse:



Christian education was never intended to end with one informed generation. Truth had to be received, understood, lived, guarded, and passed forward.

PLAIN LESSON

A truth that is not taught will eventually be forgotten. A liberty whose foundations are forgotten will eventually be misunderstood or lost.

An Early Christian Teaching Manual

The Didache, one of the earliest surviving Christian instructional writings, begins by describing two ways: the way of life and the way of death. It teaches believers to love God, love their neighbors, bless those who curse them, pray for enemies, reject murder and adultery, speak truth, give generously, and live with humility. It also gives practical instruction about baptism, prayer, worship, traveling teachers, church leadership, and testing false claims. [New Advent](#)

This tells us something important about the rise of Christianity. The early Christians did not assume that moral character would appear automatically. New believers had to be taught what Christians believed and how Christians should live.



STORY LESSON

Education connects belief to daily life. It teaches people not merely what to think, but how to live truthfully and responsibly.

Teaching Was Not Reserved for the Elite

Ancient education was often limited by wealth, sex, status, and opportunity. Christian congregations still lived within those social realities, and literacy was not universal. Yet the gospel was proclaimed to the whole gathered church. Scripture was read aloud. Sermons, hymns, prayers, creeds, testimony, and memorization allowed people with different educational backgrounds to learn together. Christian teaching addressed husbands and wives, parents and children, masters and servants, elders and young people, rich and poor.

The message was not reserved for philosophers or political rulers. Ordinary people were expected to understand truth, recognize false teaching, practice moral responsibility, and pass the faith to others.

PLAIN LESSON

Christian education treats ordinary people as moral beings capable of hearing truth, learning wisdom, and carrying responsibility.

STATION 4 / 06

LIBERTY

FAITH

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Freedom from the Mastery of Sin

The deepest Christian liberty is not freedom from taxes, prison, poverty, or political oppression - although those conditions matter greatly. It is freedom from the condemnation and ruling power of sin.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

JOHN 8:36

A person may be free to vote and still be ruled by addiction. A person may possess wealth and still be ruled by greed. A ruler may command an empire and still be ruled by pride and fear.

Christ offers a freedom the state cannot give and cannot take away.

- He forgives guilt.	- He breaks sin's dominion.
- He gives the Holy Spirit.	- He restores fellowship with God.
- He teaches His people to live as sons and daughters rather than slaves to sinful desires.	

Freedom of Conscience Under God

Christian conscience is not the belief that every personal opinion is correct. It is the responsibility to live honestly before God according to His truth. The early Christians could honor the emperor, pray for him, and obey lawful commands. They could not worship him.

Just after the first century, the Roman governor Pliny reported that Christians met before dawn, sang to Christ, committed themselves not to steal, commit adultery, defraud others, or break trust, and later shared an ordinary meal. Those who refused to deny Christ could face punishment. His account shows that Christian faith was already producing recognizable communities of worship and moral discipline beyond Christianity's birthplace. [Internet History Sourcebooks](#)

They did not claim conscience as an excuse for criminal behavior. Their conscience bound them more closely to truthfulness, chastity, honesty, faithfulness, and peaceful conduct.

PLAIN LESSON

A free conscience is not a lawless conscience. It is a conscience bound to God rather than owned by the state.

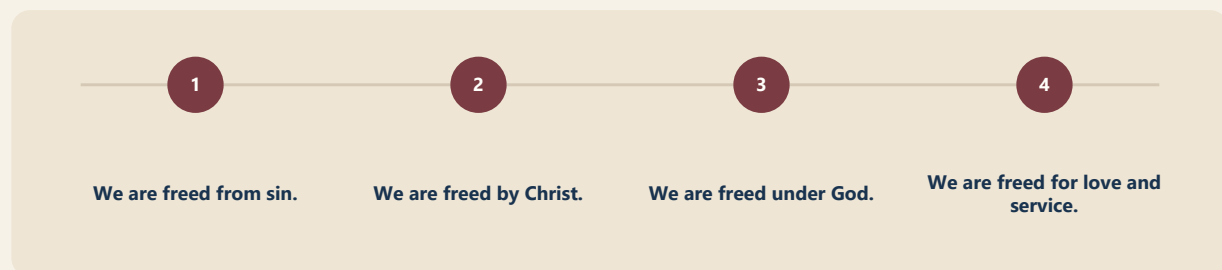
Freedom for Service

Paul wrote:

“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.”

GALATIANS 5:13

This verse contains the Christian meaning of ordered liberty.



Christian liberty does not ask only, “What am I permitted to do?” It also asks:

- What is true?	- What honors God?
- What strengthens my family?	- What protects my neighbor?
- What serves the weak?	- What builds peace?
- What example am I giving the next generation?	

PLAIN LESSON

Liberty reaches its highest purpose when free people willingly use it to love God and serve others.

Four Dimensions of Christian Liberty

01 Spiritual Liberty Freedom from condemnation and the ruling power of sin through Jesus Christ.	02 Moral Liberty Freedom to practice truth, self-control, courage, forgiveness, faithfulness, and love.
03 Liberty of Conscience Freedom to worship and obey God without surrendering the soul to human authority.	04 Liberty for Service Freedom used responsibly for family, church, neighbor, community, and the common good.

These dimensions do not make civil liberty unnecessary.

They make civil liberty meaningful.

Civil freedom creates space in which people may worship, speak, teach, work, build families, form communities, seek justice, and serve their neighbors. Christian character helps keep that freedom from collapsing into license, corruption, violence, or selfishness.

STATION 4 / 07

How Christianity Began to Change the World

FAITH

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Christianity did not begin as the official religion of an empire. It began with Jesus Christ, crucified and risen.

It spread through witnesses.

A former fisherman preached in Jerusalem. A former persecutor carried the gospel across the Roman world. Families opened their homes.

Women such as Lydia and Priscilla supported and taught within the growing Christian movement. Believers cared for widows, welcomed strangers, collected aid for suffering churches, adopted abandoned children, visited prisoners, and shared with people in need. They formed communities in which people from different nations and social positions called one another brother and sister.

The movement grew even when its members possessed little political power. By the early second century, Pliny described Christianity as having spread among different ages and social ranks and into cities, villages, and rural areas of his province. [Internet History Sourcebooks](#) Over the centuries, Christian beliefs about God, the human person, moral responsibility, conscience, charity, education, and authority influenced Western civilization.

That influence was not simple or perfect.

It did not move in a straight line.

Christian teaching existed beside human sin, political ambition, war, injustice, and hypocrisy. Reform was repeatedly necessary because Christians and Christian institutions repeatedly failed to live according to their own Scriptures. Yet the biblical standard remained available to challenge both church and state:

- Rulers answer to God.	- Every person bears God's image.
- The weak deserve protection.	- Partiality is sin.
- The conscience belongs to God.	- Truth is higher than power.
- Liberty must serve love.	

The next stations will show some of the particular ways these principles moved through history - from Christians confronting the gladiatorial games, to Patrick's law code, Alfred the Great, Magna Carta, the Reformation, the Geneva Bible, the Mayflower Compact, and eventually the American Founding.

From the Early Church to the American Founding

The American Republic was not a first-century Christian institution, and Christianity was not the only historical influence upon it. The Founders inherited English common law, colonial experience, classical history, Enlightenment thought, Protestant theology, biblical teaching, and centuries of political development. Yet Christianity supplied much of the culture's moral language: creation, covenant, conscience, sin, virtue, providence, equality before God, love of neighbor, higher law, moral accountability, and liberty under God.

John Adams later described the revolutionary generation as united around both “the general principles of Christianity” and “the general principles of English and American liberty.” [University of Missouri System](#) The Library of Congress likewise notes that religion played an important role in the American Revolution by giving moral meaning to resistance, sacrifice, duty, and public action. [The Library of Congress](#)

This does not mean every Founder held identical Christian beliefs or that every American action was consistent with Christianity. It means that the development of American liberty cannot be fully understood without the Christian ideas, churches, sermons, schools, families, books, moral teachings, and biblical language that shaped generations of Americans.

HISTORICAL LESSON

Christianity did not give America a completed Constitution. It helped form the moral world in which ideas such as higher law, accountable authority, human dignity, conscience, duty, and ordered liberty could take root.

STATION 4 / 08

Closing Takeaway

FAITH

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LIBERTY

The rise of Christianity transformed the meaning of liberty by beginning with the deepest human problem.

1

Our greatest bondage is sin.

2

**Our greatest need is reconciliation
with God.**

3

Our true Liberator is Jesus Christ.

Christ does more than remove chains from the body. He frees the heart. He does more than restrain outward wrongdoing. He produces inward transformation. He does more than give commandments. He gives His Spirit.

He does more than gather one class or nation. He gathers a people from every tribe, language, and condition. The Christian message declares that rulers are under God, every human life has worth, the weak must not be forgotten, truth is greater than power, conscience cannot be owned by Caesar, and liberty must never become an excuse for selfishness.

Civil liberty is a precious blessing, but it is safest among people who possess the inward character to use it responsibly.

1

Faith forms morality.

2

Morality shapes law.

3

**Law requires
education.**

4

**Education helps
preserve liberty.**

5

**And beneath the
entire chain stands the
promise of Jesus
Christ:**

“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”

Station 4 Memory Line

Jesus Christ frees people from the bondage of sin, gives equal standing before God, transforms the heart, places every ruler under a higher authority, and teaches His people to use liberty in love and service.

STATION 4 / 09

Source Notes

FAITH

MORALITY

LAW

EDUCATION

LIBERTY

Source labels in the text and the linked titles below are clickable where a URL was provided.

1

The Holy Bible, King James Version. Principal passages: Matthew 5-7; 22:15-40; 28:18-20; John 8:31-36; 18:36; Acts 2; 4:1-31; 5:17-42; Romans 8; 12-13; Galatians 3:28; 5:1, 13, 22-23; Ephesians 2:8-10; Colossians 3-4; 1 Timothy 2:1-6; 2 Timothy 2:2; Philemon; Hebrews 8:6-13; James 2:1-13.

2

Pliny the Younger and Emperor Trajan, correspondence concerning Christians, approximately A.D. 112. Pliny reported Christian worship, moral commitments, shared meals, the spread of Christianity, and Roman procedures for examining accused Christians. [Internet History Sourcebooks](#)

3

The Didache, or Teaching of the Twelve Apostles. An early Christian instructional document describing the way of life, moral teaching, worship, baptism, prayer, church order, generosity, and discernment. [New Advent](#)

4

British Museum, "Slavery in Ancient Rome." Background concerning the absence of personal rights for enslaved people under Roman law. [British Museum](#)

5

Metropolitan Museum of Art, "The Roman Empire." Background concerning the Roman Empire, provincial administration, and the expansion of Roman citizenship. [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

6

John Adams to Thomas Jefferson, June 28, 1813. Adams connected the "general principles of Christianity" with the "general principles of English and American liberty," while recognizing the religious diversity of the revolutionary generation. [University of Missouri System](#)

7

Library of Congress, "Religion and the American Revolution." Historical discussion of religion's influence on the moral language and public arguments of the Revolutionary era. [The Library of Congress](#)

8

National Garden of the Founders Master Outline and Station 2 Information Page. Organizational structure and continuing Garden thread: Faith, Morality, Law, Education, and Liberty.