

# sermon notes

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Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | January 31, 2024

**“Freedom in Christ” | John 8:21–38**

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- 1) Freedom in Christ means freedom from \_\_\_\_\_  
(8:21-24)
- 2) Freedom in Christ means freedom from \_\_\_\_\_  
(8:25-26)
- 3) Freedom in Christ means freedom from \_\_\_\_\_  
(8:27-32)
  - a) Faith in Christ means \_\_\_\_\_ Christ
  - b) Faith in Christ means \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and in his word
  - c) Faith in Christ means a \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge of the truth
  - d) Faith in Christ means a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ freedom
- 4) Freedom in Christ means freedom from \_\_\_\_\_  
(8:33-38)

## Questions for further application of God’s Word:

- 1) In John 8:21, where is Jesus going where these Jewish leaders cannot come? Why can’t they come? What must they do to go where Jesus is going? Do some within this crowd believe?
- 2) What does it mean to “die in your sin” (vs. 21)? Why does Jesus use the plural “sins” in vs. 24? What’s the difference between dying in your sin and dying in your sins? If you died today, would you die in your sins? Or have your sins been paid for by the blood of Jesus? How do you know if they’ve been paid?
- 3) What kind of freedom is Jesus talking about in 8:31, 36? Is this a freedom to do whatever our heart desires? Is this the freedom of complete and total autonomy? Explain the relationship between freedom and truth. Give an illustration on how freedom results from the embrace of truth.
- 4) What is the world’s view of freedom? How does it differ from Jesus’s understanding of freedom? What are some things that people are enslaved to in this world? What are some things that you need freedom from through the truth of God’s Word?
- 5) Jesus says, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples” (8:31). What does it mean to abide in Jesus’s word? What does it mean to abide in Christ (see John 15:1-11)? Who do you run to when life gets hard? Who do you look to when trials and challenges come into your life? Do you run to Jesus? Do you abide in him? Do you find your identity in him or in some other thing or some other person’s opinion of you?

## Advanced Question #1:

Read John 8:30-31. Do people actually get saved in vs. 30? If so, why does Jesus warn them in vs. 31? Is there evidence later in the passage that these “many who believed in him” actually exhibited false faith?

## Advanced Question #2:

Jesus says, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples” (8:31)? How would you respond to someone who said that salvation is a matter of faith and works because we must abide in him to truly be his disciple? Explore the tension here of faith and obedience. Is there such a thing as faith in Christ without obedience? Is faith plus obedience necessary for salvation?