



FREEDOM

Pastor Sarah Burt

July 4, 2021

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Share an example of a practical way someone has shown you love recently. (a material gift, kind word, listening ear, ride to an appointment...) Invite others to share examples as well. Notice how different they can be and yet how similar in meeting a need or becoming a blessing.

Scripture: [Galatians 5: 13-15](#) and [1 Peter 2: 16](#)

- While our freedom in Christ is an amazing gift, have you ever thought about it as an instrument of your faith – intended to act as a catalyst for love, but also able to be misused or misdirected?
- What would it look like to use your freedom as an opportunity for the 'flesh'? What would cause someone to go down that path? Have you ever found yourself tempted in this way? Example?
- How is serving another person an expression of freedom? What is it freedom from?
- John Piper wrote, "The secret of love is freedom, and the secret of freedom is utter confidence in the love of God." How do you think our understanding of freedom impacts our ability to love others well? How does the love of God set us free?

Prayer: Spend a few moments thinking about how you love others and how confident you are in God's love for you. Ask God to reveal any ways that your heart motives might be off track. Pray for God's abundant love to fill every corner and crevice of your heart to overflowing.

Next Steps:

- Brainstorm a short list of practical ways that you can use your freedom to serve someone else. Pray for opportunities and then be intentional about taking action when God leads you to them.
- READ/ LISTEN: Message by John Piper, "[Freed to Love](https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/freed-to-love)" (<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/freed-to-love>)