

***“The light shines...”***

**John 1:5**

**‘a little help’**



***Who the Son sets free is free indeed! John 8:36***

**January Summer Series – Freedom in Christ**

**4 Jan – Water to Drink, the Word became Flesh (Jesus)**

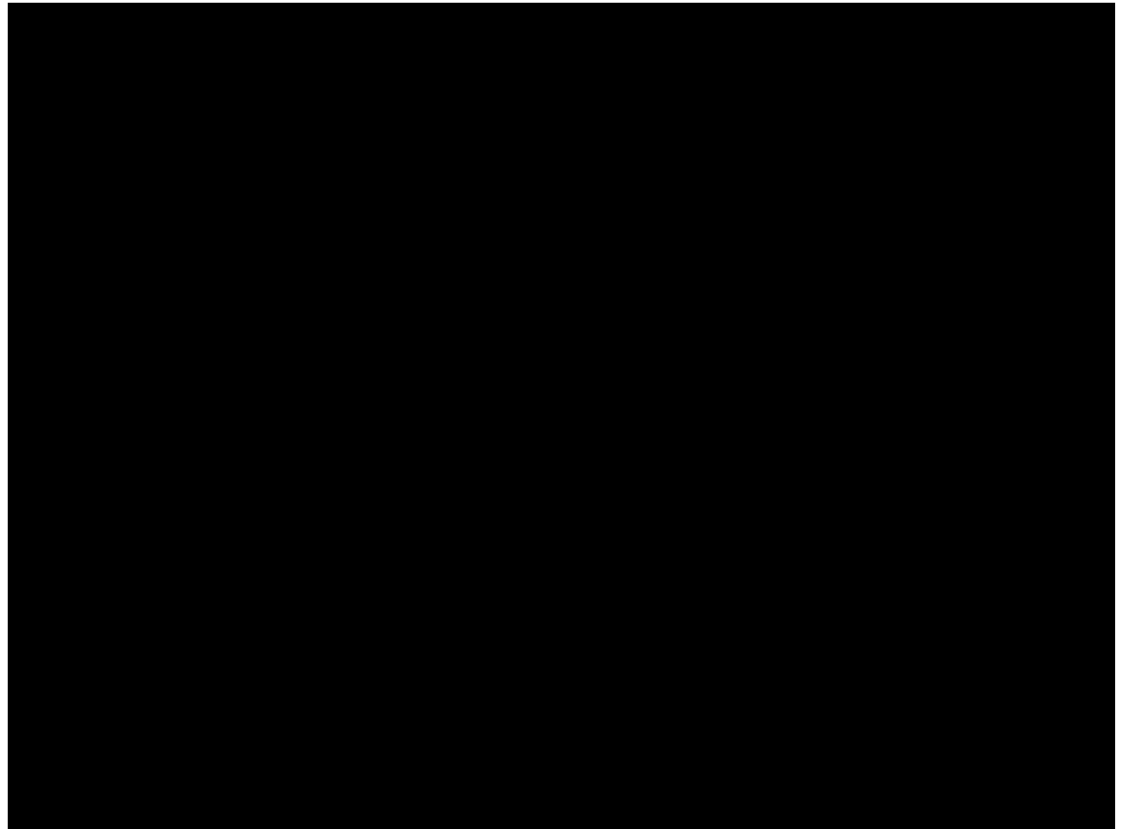
**11 Jan – Stand firm, Gazing upon His Glory**

**25 Jan – The marks of freedom in Christ**

**18 Jan – Freedom to be a child of God**

**who the Son sets free is  
free indeed, called to live  
in the grace of Christ,  
and in Christ, is more  
than a cleaner  
conqueror...**

**John 8:36 + Gal 1:6 +  
Rom 8:37-39**



*But you, **children, are from God**, and you have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (1Jn4:3)*

**“A conqueror defeats and nullifies the purpose the enemy. To be more than a conqueror is to make His foe His slave, and causes the enemies plans to serve His purposes.” (John Piper) (see Acts 26)**

**God not only delivers us from our suffering; He also makes our suffering serve His purposes and glory (see 2 Cor 4:17, Gen 50:20)**

**God overcomes opposition making them servants of His purpose.**

**The Who of our salvation is greater than the who of our opposition.**

**Freedom to be a child of God...in our ‘trust’**

***Who am I? that the highest King would welcome me***  
***While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me***

*Who am I? that the highest King would welcome me*  
*While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me*  
*I was lost but He brought me in, oh His love for me*  
*He has ransomed me, His grace runs deep*  
*Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed*  
*In my Father's house, there's a place for me , I'm a child of God*  
*I am chosen-not forsaken, You are for me-not against me*  
*I am who You say I am*

- *But to anyone who did accept him, he gave the right to become **God's children**; yes, to anyone who believed in his name. (John 1:12)*
- *For all who are led by the Spirit of God are **children of God**. (Rom 8:14)*
- *For you are all **children of God** through faith in Christ Jesus. (Gal 3:26)*
- *Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a **child of God**. (1 Jn 5:1)*
- *So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the **same Father**. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his **brothers and sisters**. (Heb 2:11)*
- *And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by **God's children**. Both are part of the **same body**, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because **they belong** to Christ Jesus. (Eph 3:6)*

## **Parental Roles by Example (see Luke 11:13)**

**Nurturer: curates physical and emotional security**

**Models: teaches life skills, values, behaviour**

**Boundaries: sets boundaries and teaches consequences**

**Advocate: sensitive to the child's needs, inspires growth and vision**

## **Freedom to be a child of God**

**to explore, learn, and develop within a loving family**

**to trust in the love and direction of parents**

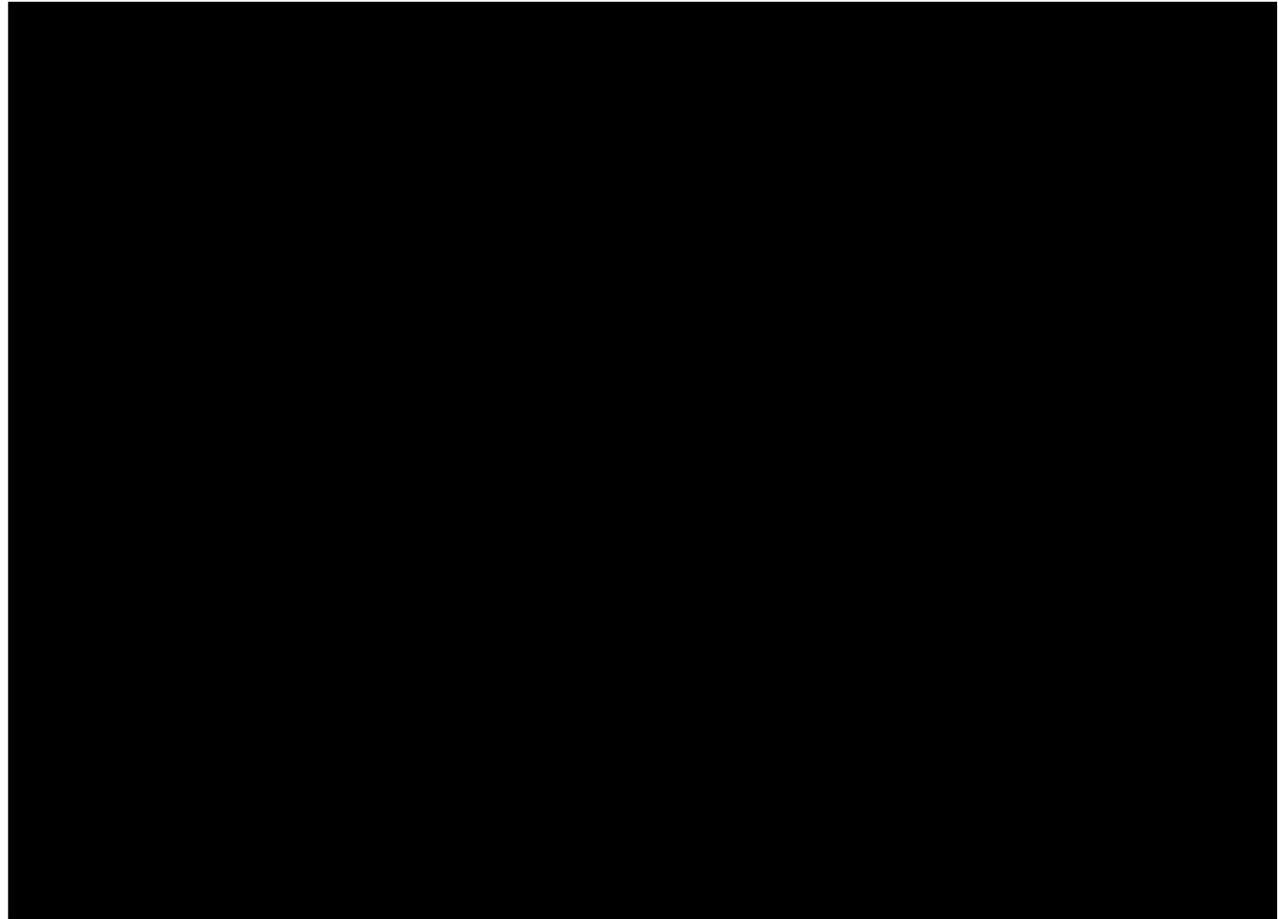
**to be humble, thankful and enjoy my place at the table**



**Freedom to be a child-like  
child of God:**

**Trust in the love of God  
Trust the direction of God  
Be humble and thankful  
enjoy ones place at the table**

**– not childish, immature**



## **Freedom to be a child of God is not saying...**

- **Immature behaviour or thinking are said to be controlled by their *inner child*. Exhibit moments of particular selfishness or pettiness, are incidents of the *inner child's* personality taking control.**
- **Or our natural desire for expression, carefree relaxation, joy, wonder, and enjoyment – take a day do something fun, “setting *my inner child free*.”**
- **Scripture points to a child of God to always be maturing and bearing fruit...**

**Scripture doesn't seem to support the idea that there is a "real you" being somehow covered up by life's hardships.**

**Negative experiences in our lives not always, but often result from our own choices or the sinful choices of other people (Heb 2:1-4; Pro 9:12).**

**When we are selfish, greedy, jealous, disunifying, temperamental, or out of control (Gal5:19-21), we're not being controlled by some damaged version of our "inner child" – we are expressing our old nature.**

**The solution is always humble child-like faith to put on Christ, and to delight in the saving relationship of Jesus (1 Cor 6:9-11).**

***Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord. **Trust him, and he will help you.** He will make your innocence radiate like the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun. Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for him to act. Don't worry about evil people who prosper or fret about their wicked schemes. (Psalm 37:4-7)***

***"The words you speak to your child become their internal voice,"  
generally attributed to Peggy O'Mara***

***I [the Lord] will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you. (Psalm 32:8)***

## **Freedom to be a child of God who exhibits 'child-like' faith**

- **The Bible speaks of being amazed and full of joy in the Lord**
- **Our Heavenly Father provides His children with experiences that trigger our sense of childlike wonder (Psalm 19:1; 147:4; Malachi 4:2)**
- **Kids never tire of joys that adults take for granted (dangerous)**
- **A child of God never stops practicing **child-like faith** (Matt 18:2–3) and trusting the ways of the Father, in obedience**
- **Child-like faith freely submits to the Father's guidance (Psalm 119:105) and His goodness (Luke 11:11–13)**

## **Freedom to live with child-like faith is to know God's goodness!**

- **blessed assurance and security (Rom 8:14-17)**
- **the gift of His Spirit (Luke 11:13) and eternal life (John 3:1-16)**
- **joy, peace, hope for everyday living (Rom 15:13)**
- **a loving church body of Christ family to love and belong (1 Tim 5:1-2)**
- **relational Father (Rom 8:15) and loving correction (Heb 12:5-6)**
- **children after God (Matt 5:45) imitating God (Eph 5:1)**
- **forgiveness (1 John 2:12) and access to God in prayer (Matt 7:11)**
- **confidence in His provision (Matt 6:25)**
- **freedom in Christ (Galatians 5:1)**

**‘burdens’ will limit the goodness of being a child of God**

**Galatians 5:1-2, 5:5-6, 5:12-13**

***It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves **be burdened again** by a yoke of slavery.***

***Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.***

***For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.***

***I just wish that those troublemakers who want to mutilate you by circumcision would castrate themselves. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh, rather, serve one another humbly in love.***

## **Galatians 5:1-2**

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**1/ Where do we limit Christ in ourselves?**



## Galatians 5:5-6

***For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts **is faith expressing itself through love.*****

**2/ How is our child-like faith and first love for Jesus...?**

## Galatians 5:12-13

*I just wish that those troublemakers who want to mutilate you by circumcision would **castrate themselves**. But do not use your freedom to **indulge the flesh**, rather, serve one another humbly in love.*

*He who has been castrated by having his testicles crushed or his male organ cut off **shall not enter the congregation of the LORD**. A person of illegitimate birth shall not enter the assembly of the LORD; none of his descendants, even to the tenth generation. (Deuteronomy 23:1-2)*

**(Matthew 19:12)(Acts 8:26-39)**

# PRISON DOORS OPENED

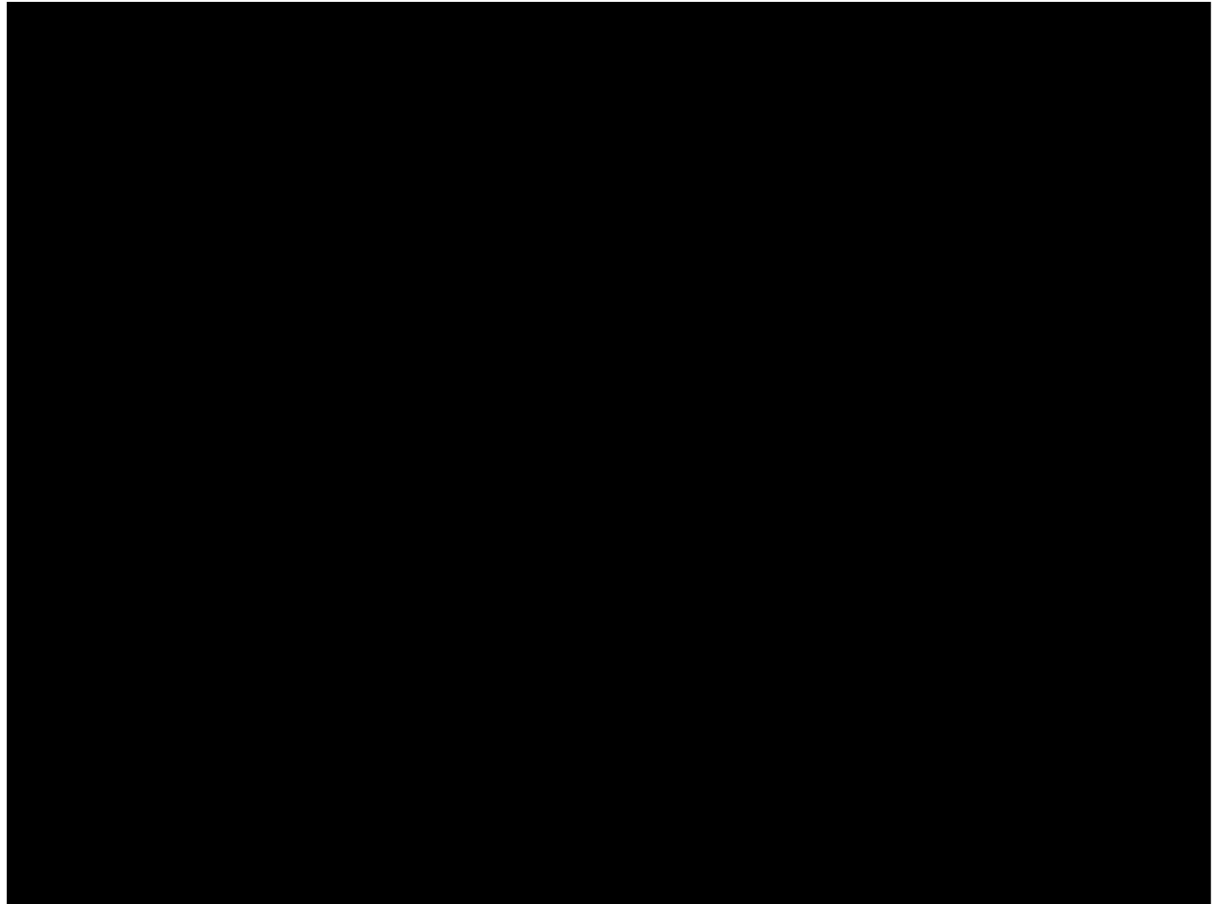
**Galatians 5:13 - *But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh,  
rather, serve one another humbly in love.***

**How does it work?**

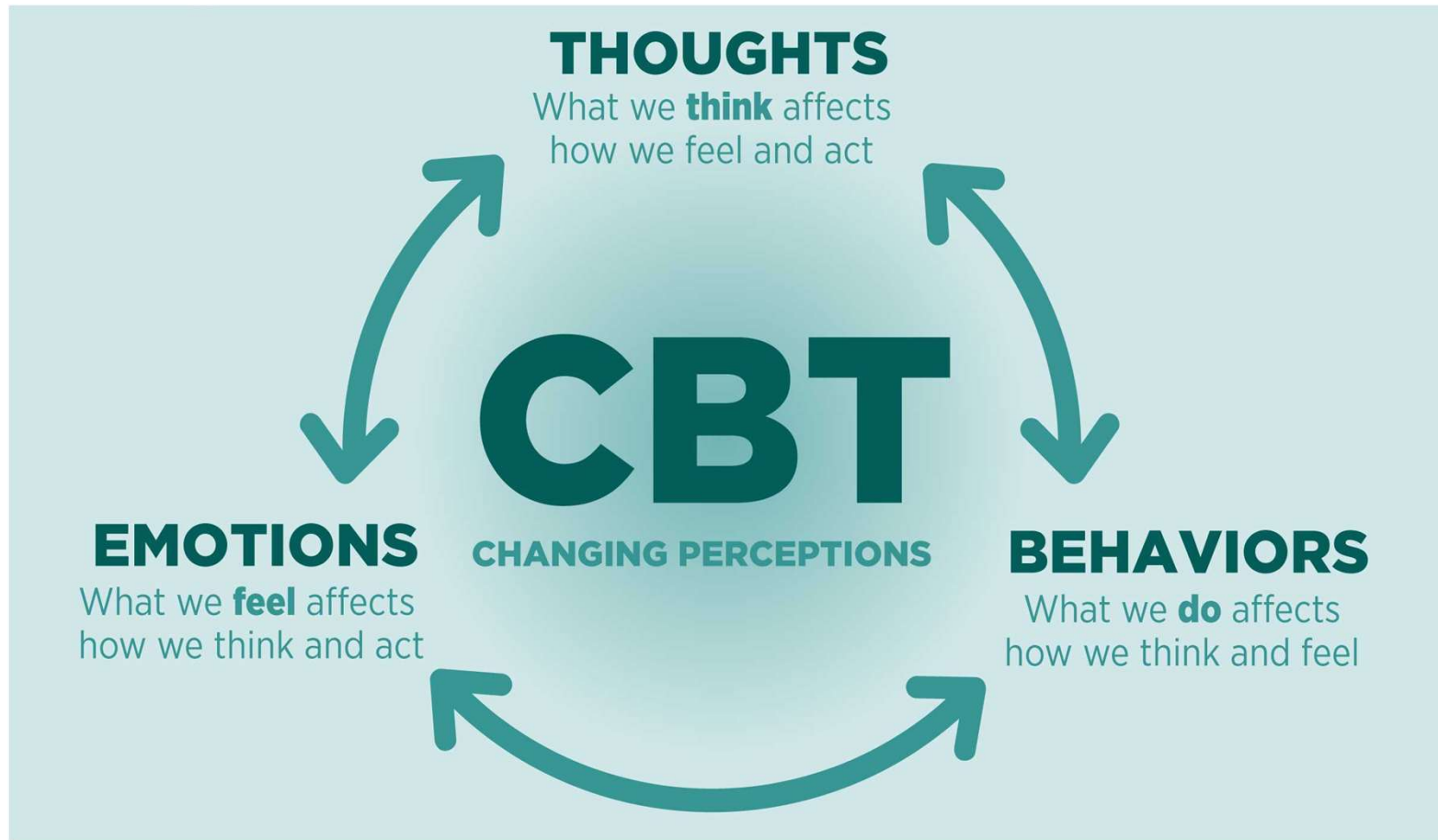
**Rather use your freedom  
to serve one another  
humbly in love.**

***Carry each other's  
burdens, and in this way  
you will fulfill the law of  
Christ.***

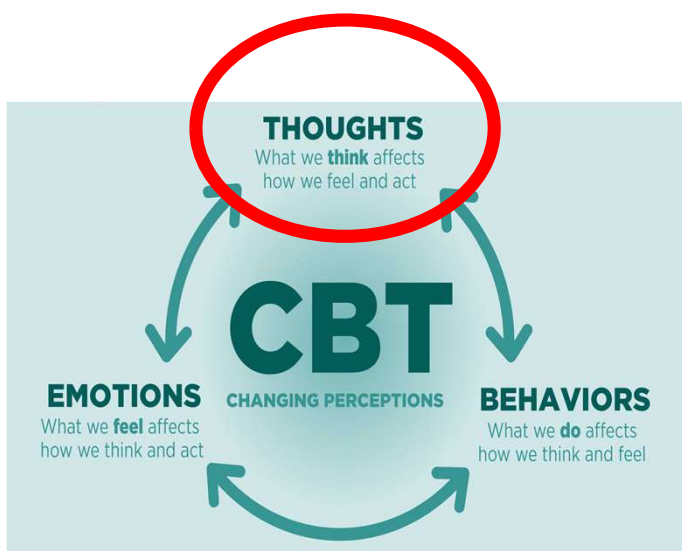
**(Galatians 6:2)**



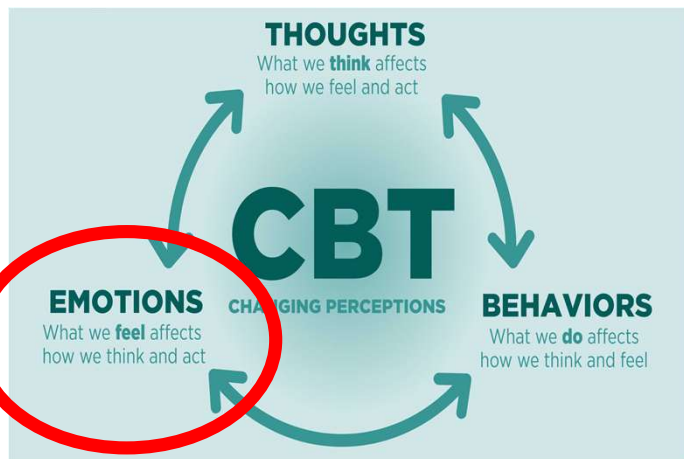
## How does it work?



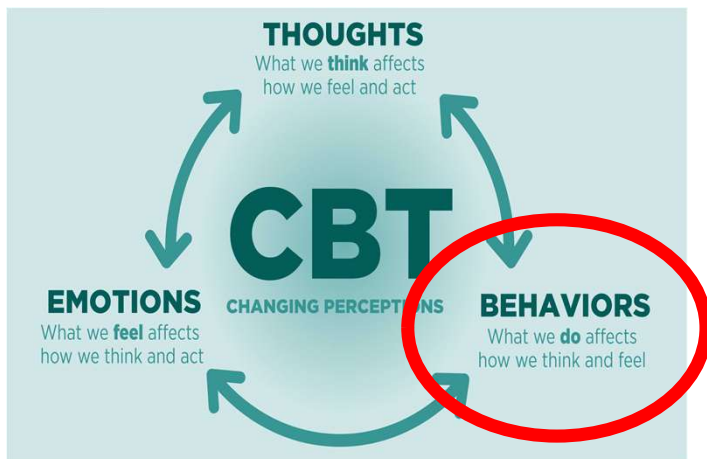
**Think how to use our freedom to serve one another humbly in love.**



***So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. That, however, is not the way of life you learned (Ephesians 4:17-20)***

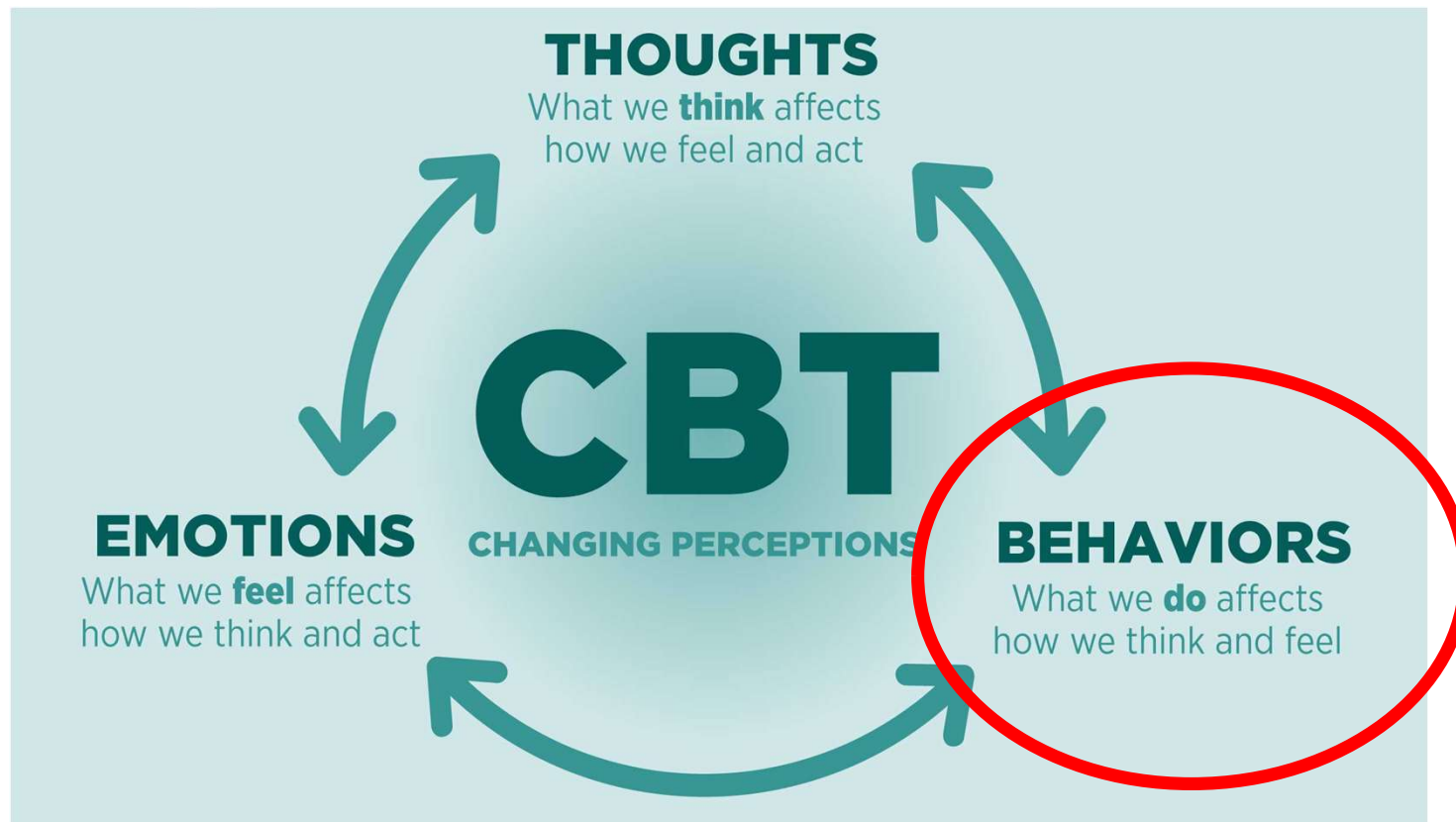


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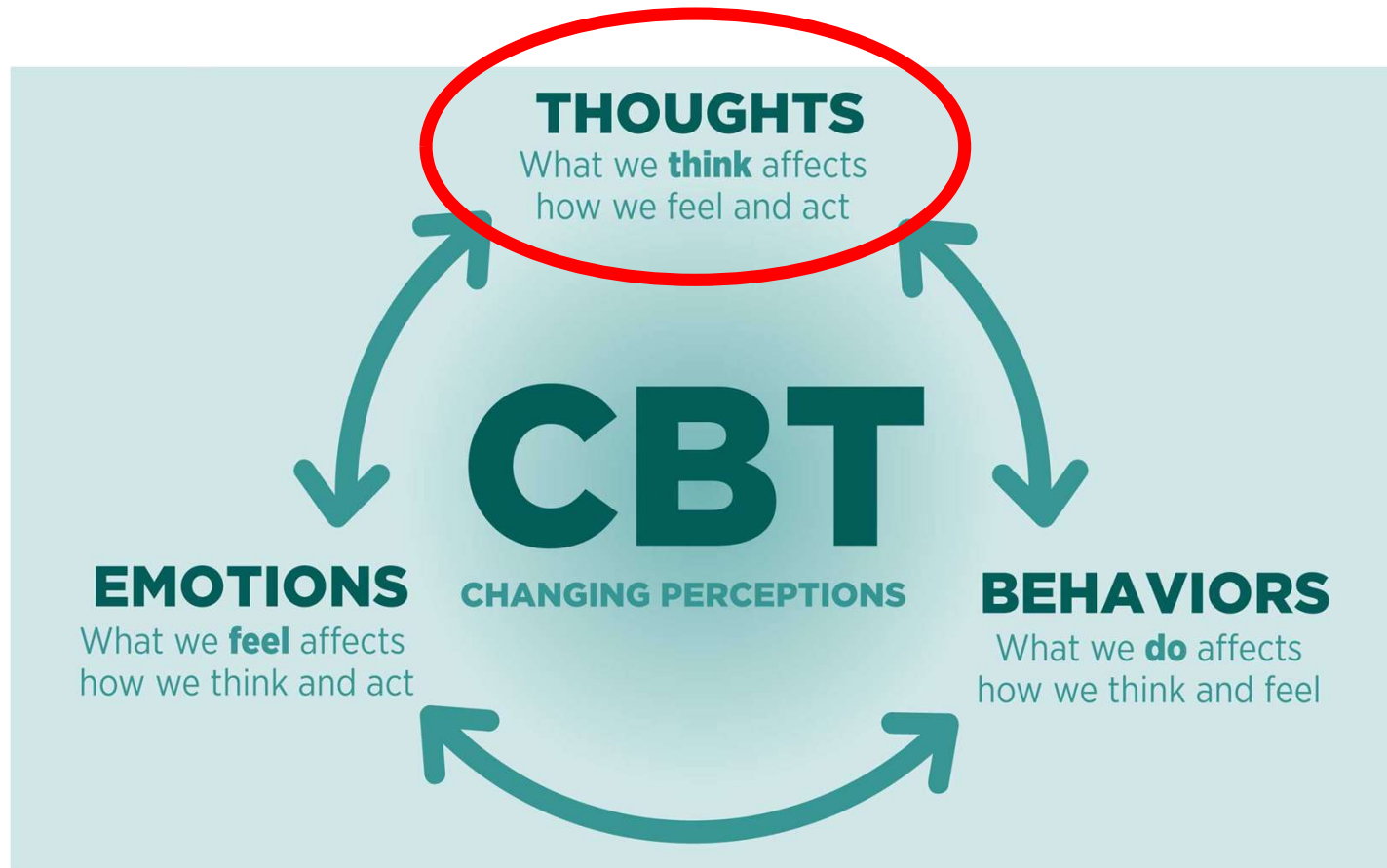


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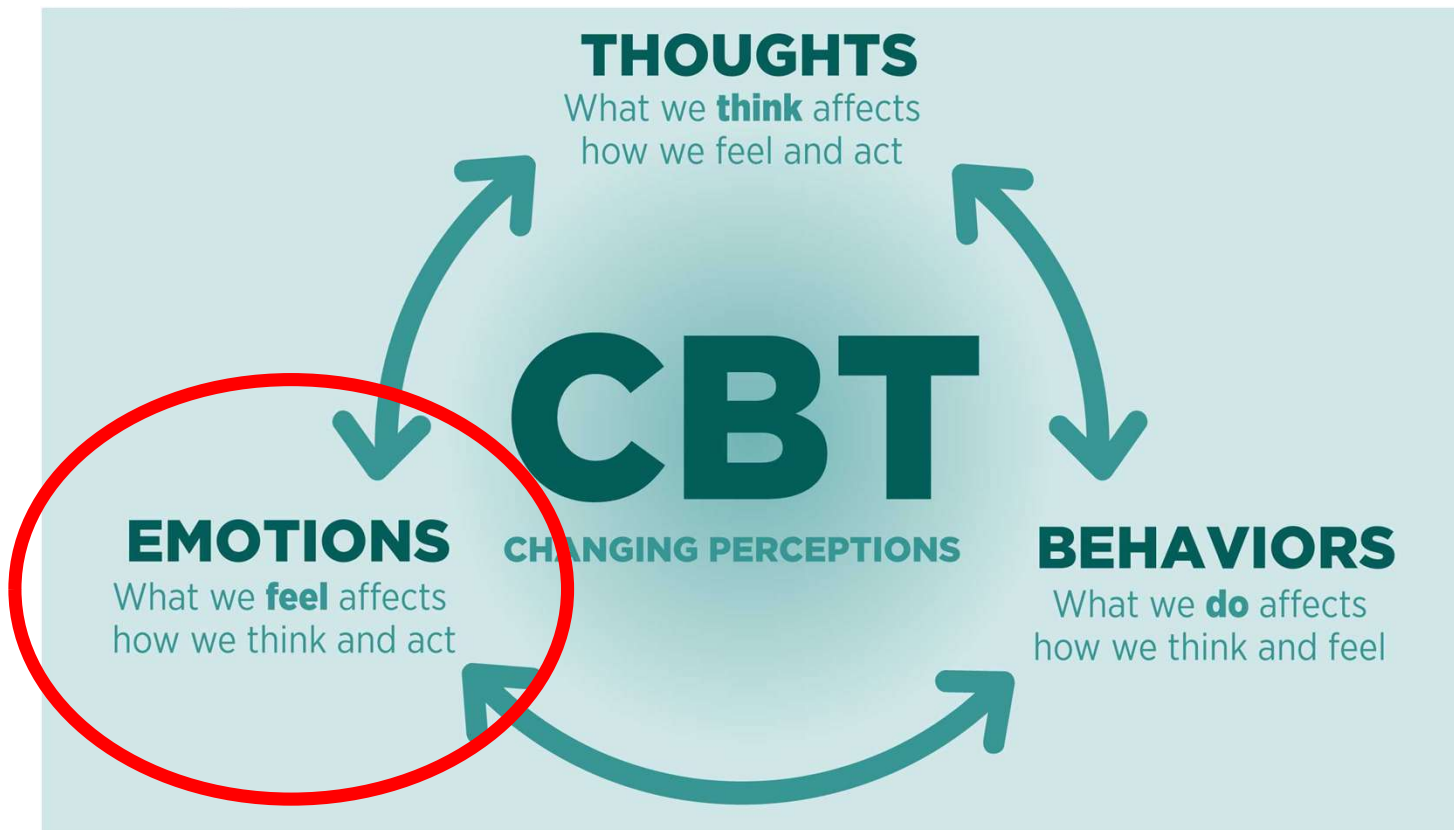




***But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh, rather, **serve one another** humbly in love. (Galatians 5:13)***



***But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh, rather, serve one another **humbly** in love. (Galatians 5:13)***



***But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh, rather, serve one another humbly *in love*. (Galatians 5:13)***

## **Ephesians 4:20-24**

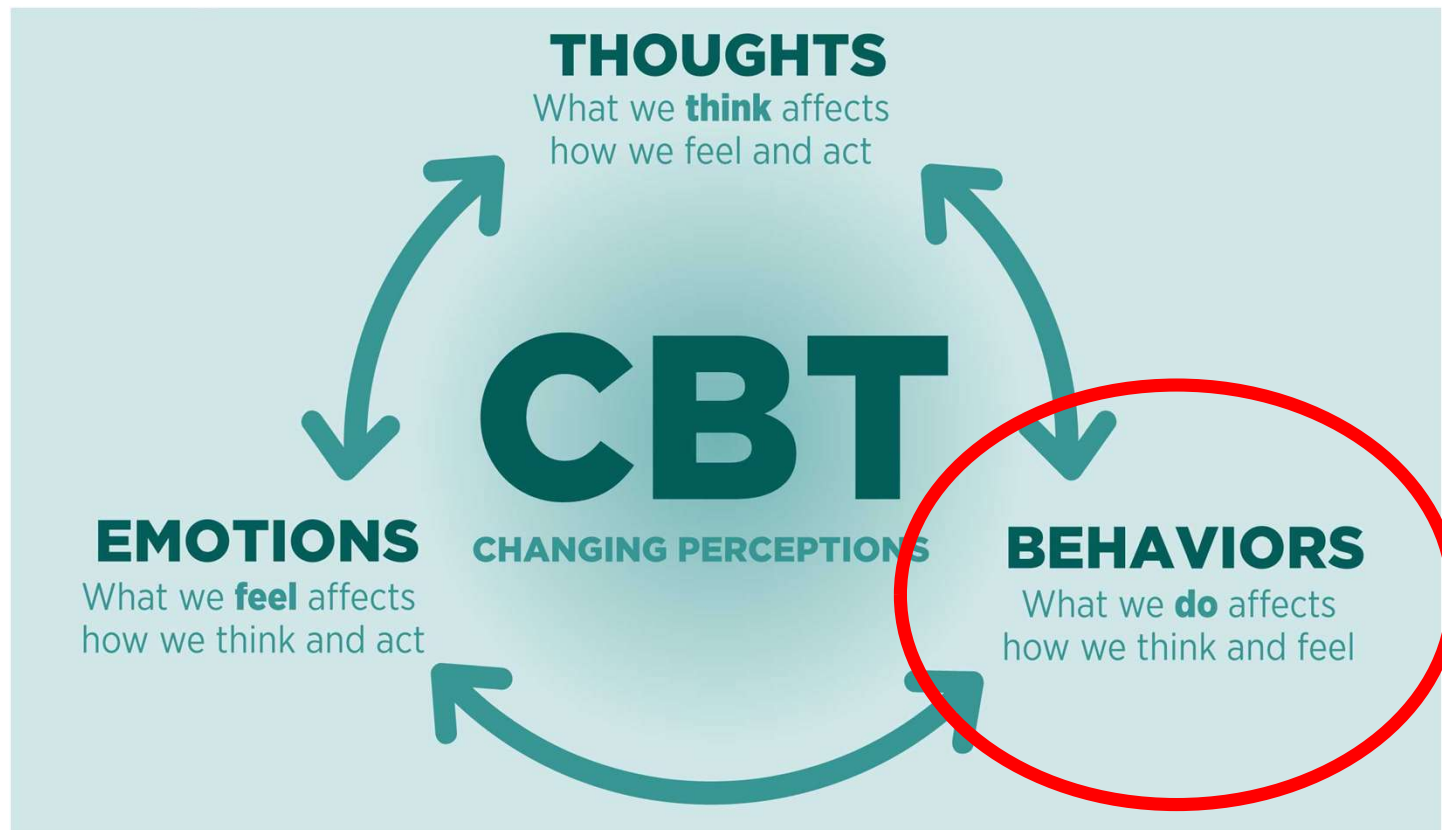
***That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.***

***You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;***

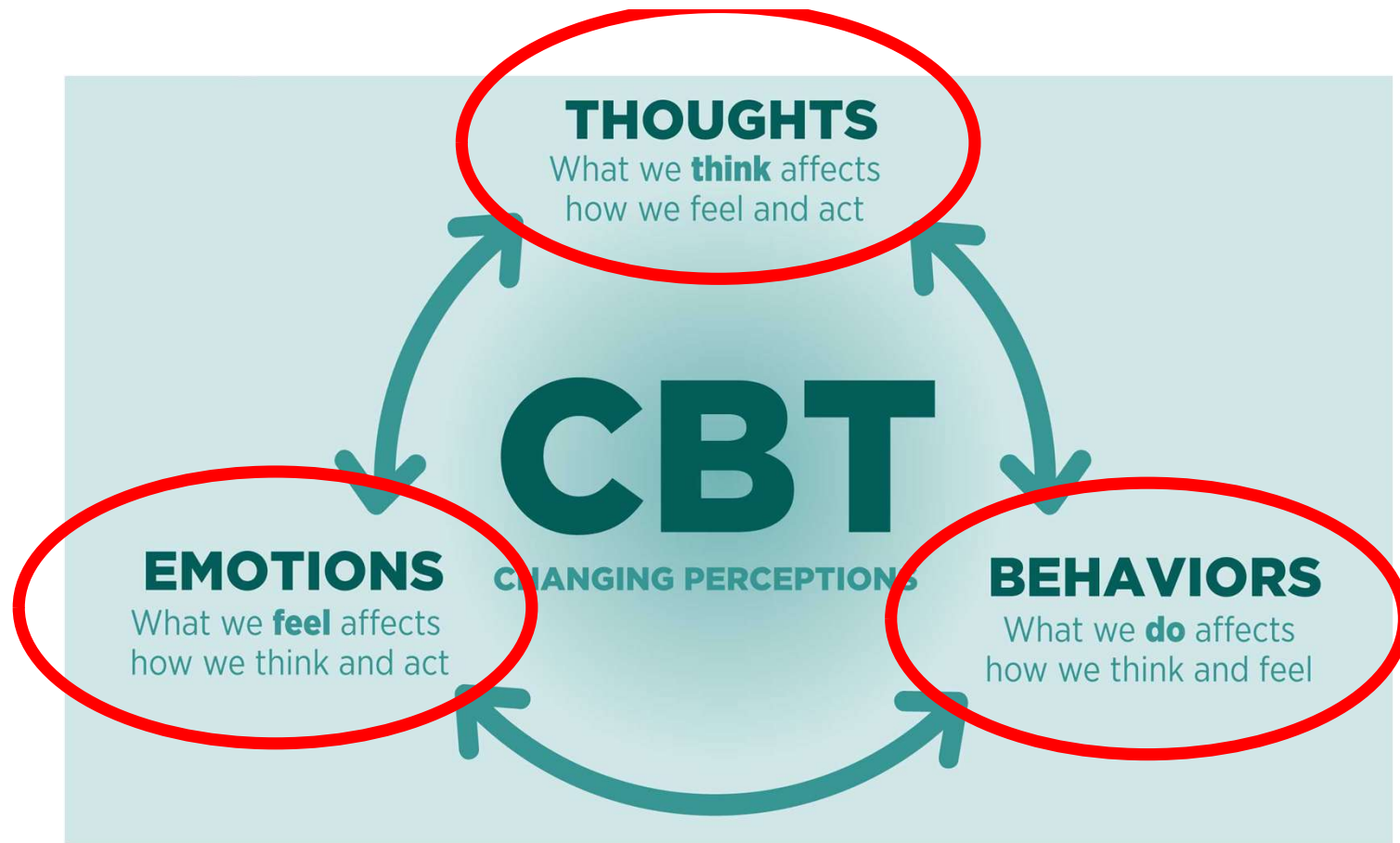
***to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.***

### **[THINKING] Emotions**

***Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind... (Romans 12:2)***



***Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. (Ephesians 4:28)***



***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)***

## **January Summer Series – Freedom in Christ**

***But you, children, are from God, and **you have overcome them**,  
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is  
in the world. (1Jn4:3)***

### **CHILD-LIKE FAITH?**

### **THINKING - EMOTIONS – ACTIONS?**

**This week, set yourself 3 actions...use your freedom to serve  
[some one 1/ close, 2/ near & 3/ far] humbly in love.**

**freedom**  
*in*  
*Christ*