

"The light shines..."

John 1:5

'a little help'



freedom
in Christ

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

January Summer Series – Freedom in Christ

Last week: Introduction – Jesus, the Word became Flesh

"And the **Word became flesh**, and lived among us. We gazed upon his glory, glory like that of the father's only son, full of grace and truth."

"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 1:14,12



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So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith... Galatians 3:24-26

Part 2: Stand firm; children of God, and gaze upon His Glory

Jesus set us free so that we could enjoy freedom... Galatians 5:1



who the Son sets free is free indeed!

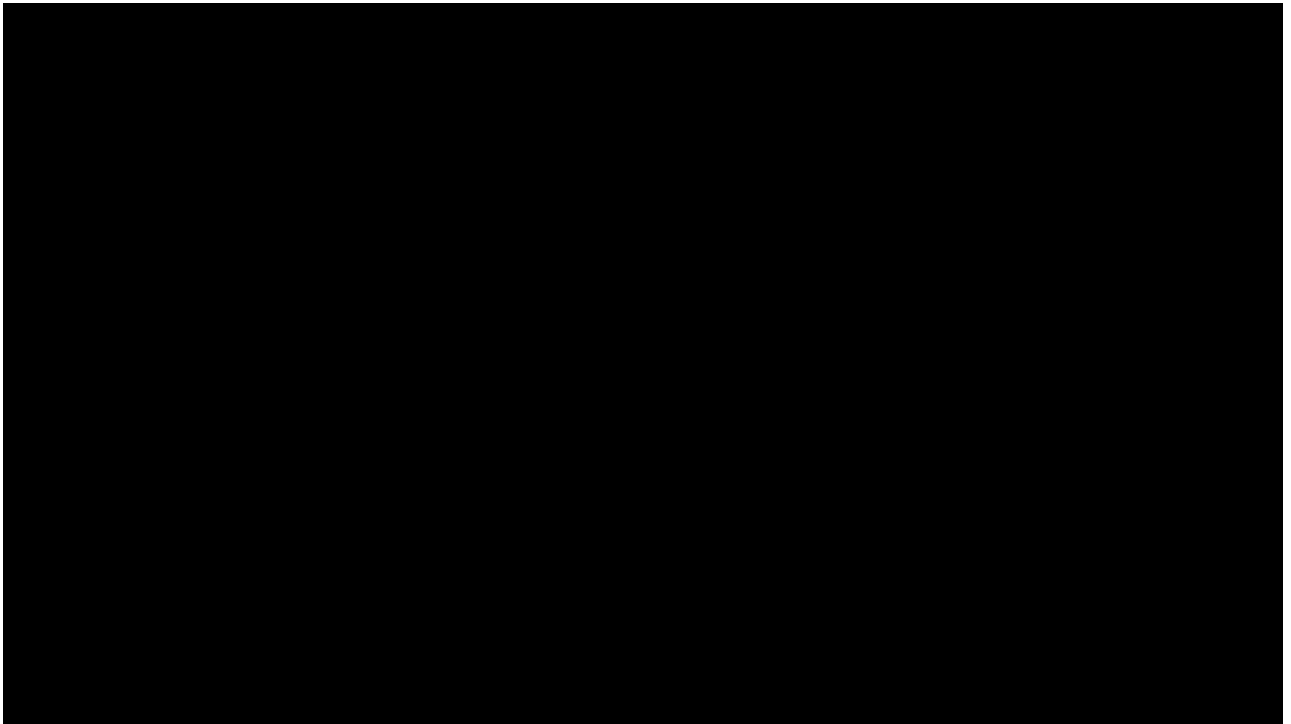
John 8:36

called you to live in the grace of Christ

Gal 1:6

in Christ, we are more than ~~cleaners~~ conquerors...

Rom 8:37-39



freedom
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Letter to the Galatians – new believers in modern day Turkey

(Personal & relational)(Emotive & direct)(Corrective)(Stand firm in Freedom)

Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe <> Acts 13-16

- 1. Defends his position, calls them 'deserters of Christ'**
- 2. Deals with religious and racial allegiances / superiority**
- 3. Salvation is by faith in Jesus**
- 4. Freedom in Christ...to love your neighbour as yourself**
- 5. New creation peace and mercy**
- 6. Life of fruitfulness (of the Spirit)**





January Summer Series – Freedom in Christ

Galatians 5:1 - *Jesus set us free so that we could enjoy freedom! *So stand firm*, and don't get yourselves tied down by the chains of slavery.*

Gaze upon that... I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God... Galatians 2:20-21



1. Stand firm - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live (our center on Jesus)

- crucifying our sinful desires moves us away from grace, to self. It's what Jesus has done for our forgiveness, not what we have to do
- no longer under the penalty of the Law, we wholeheartedly trust (gaze upon) His crucifixion for our sin
- our surrender and humility means we died with Christ, we no longer live
- truth underscores our union with Jesus

For you are all children of God, through faith in Jesus. Gal 3:26



2. Stand firm - Christ lives in me.

- **“in Christ” mentioned 13 times in Galatians**
- **we have a new identity in our union with Jesus, and live as He does**
- **we have a new way of life, a new gratitude, a new love, a new dedication to the glory of the Lord – our old life is gone – our focus is Jesus**
- **close relationship, close fellowship, Christ lives in me**
- **Like Jesus, Luke 2:49-50 & Psalm 100:3**

For you are all children of God, through faith in Jesus. Gal 3:26



2. Stand firm - Christ lives in me.

- **Psalm 100:3 - Know (perceive, recognise, understand with approval) that the Lord is God! It is He Who has made us, not we ourselves [and we are His]! We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.**
- **Luke 2:49-50 - And He said to them, How is it that you had to look for Me? Did you not see and know that it is necessary [as a duty] for Me to be in My Father’s house and [occupied] about My Father’s business? But his parents did not understand what He was saying to them.**
- **close relationship, close fellowship, about the Father’s business**

For you are all children of God, through faith in Jesus. Gal 3:26



2. Stand firm - Christ lives in me.

- adopted kids are broken hearted because of...and have all experienced loss, hurt, trauma...
- accept the new family member where they are at
- priority of time to be 'family' (to be with)
- your journey is your journey, it is not to be compared
- I don't have their DNA but "I can see many characteristics from them in myself. I could not possibly love two humans more - they chose me."

[Howell, S.L. (2009). Adoption of the Unrelated Child: Some Challenges to the Anthropological Study of Kinship.]

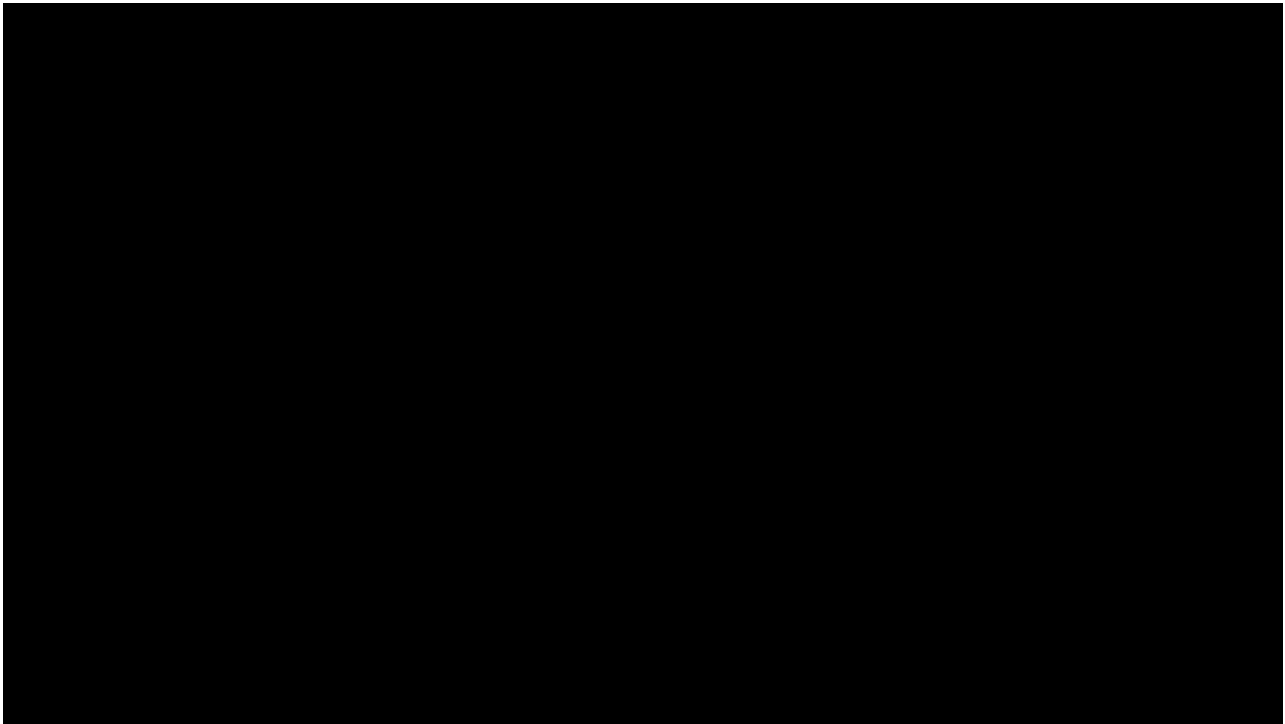
Close relationship, close fellowship, about the Father's business



3. Stand firm - I live by faith in the Son of God

- to live trusting in the Word made flesh – for each today
- believe He has not only redeemed and made us righteous, but He is also making us Holy, as we live by faith!
- represent Jesus in your 'space' (about the Father's business), with-by-in the person of the Holy Spirit, bringing glory to God
- gazing upon, maturing towards Jesus by faith, we are being perfected

For you are all children of God, through faith in Jesus. Gal 3:26



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4. Stand firm – Jesus loves me, do not set aside the grace of God

- Jesus loves me, called by His grace – not my perfection (Gal 1:15-16)
- Christ did not die to save us only leaving us to live on our own. Our hearts, our minds, our actions can declare that God's grace is not enough, Jesus giving His life for us is not enough
- being a child of God is a gift, not a reward. It is received, not achieved.
- Martyn Lloyd-Jones wrote, "The ultimate test of our spirituality is the measure of our amazement at the grace of God."

Are we still gazing of the Glory of God?

For you are all children of God, through faith in Jesus. Gal 3:26



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Jesus set us free so that we could enjoy freedom! **So stand firm**, and don't get yourselves tied down by the chains of slavery. Galatians 5:1

Gazing upon His glory daily as children of God

