

Freedom defined:

- ability to act freely
- familiarity
- release from captivity/slavery
- excessive confidence or choice
- right to act or speak freely
- absence of something unpleasant
- lack of restrictions
- self-determination
- independence
- right to occupy place
- liberty
- autonomy

1. In your life, which of those words would best describe freedom to you and why?

2. From your own perspective, would you consider yourself a person who is free? If so, was there a point that you can remember that you became free? If not, what do you think is your biggest personal hindrance to freedom?

Paul tells his story briefly in Galatians 1:13-16 (MSG)

13 I'm sure that you've heard the story of my earlier life when I lived in the Jewish way. In those days I went all out in persecuting God's church. I was systematically destroying it. 14 I was so enthusiastic about the traditions of my ancestors that I advanced head and shoulders above my peers in my career. 15 Even then God had designs on me. Why, when I was still in my mother's womb he chose and called me out of sheer generosity! 16 Now he has intervened and revealed his Son to me so that I might joyfully tell non-Jews about him.

3. Read Acts 8:1-8 and Acts 9:1-7 SLOWLY! What are some of the things that stand out to you as you reflect on Galatians 1:13 and these 2 passages concerning:

a. Paul the man

b. God's Sovereignty

c. God's Grace

Paul starts off his letter to the Galatians strongly reminding them of what God has done for them - Galatians 1:3-5 (MSG)

"So I greet you with the great words, grace and peace! We know the meaning of those words because Jesus Christ rescued us from this evil world we're in by offering himself as a sacrifice for our sins. God's plan is that we all experience that rescue."

4. How do you process the reality that the Galatians had been rescued from sin, but were now being led astray? Do you have any examples of something similar?

Galatians – freedom manifesto

- freedom from the power of SIN
- freedom from the power of SINS
- freedom from the prison of RELIGION.

5. What is the difference between SIN and SINS

6. If someone asked you the difference between what you believe and organized religion, how would you respond?
