

WEEK 6 | *GALATIANS 5:13-6:10*

FREE TO LOVE

Freddie Mercury famously sang “I want to break free” in his hit song of the same title. He’s talking about freedom from a bad relationship. It’s not that different for sinners. We’ve got a bad relationship with our past way of life we can’t break free from, and God knows we need to. Let’s explore what the Apostle tells us about what it means to break free to live the new life we’ve been called to as Christians.



PRESSURE IN GALATIA

1. Let's get the freedom juices flowing. What are two things you'd love to be freed from, and what would they free you up to do instead?

2. What would it take to make this freedom possible?

Read Galatians 5:13-26

3. According to verse 13 Christians have been called to be free. But let's clarify what that looks like. Scan the passage and make a list of what this calling looks like.

I'm **now** free to...

But I'm **not** free to



4. Which is really breaking free - is it doing whatever your natural desires want, or following the Spirit's lead? Make your case...

5. Paul is quick to qualify the purpose of our freedom - it's both freedom 'from', and freedom 'to.' First and foremost, it's freedom not to indulge the sinful nature. What's the secret to this? (v16)

6. Try diagramming verse 17. Explain your diagram.

FREEDOM TODAY

It sounds like we're conflicted people! But Paul is optimistic about our chances at breaking free from sin.

Read Galatians 6:1-10.

7. What are some practical ways we might "keep in step with the Spirit".
8. What extra motivation does Paul give for not indulging the sinful nature? (5.15, 21, 6.7-9)
9. Does this principle of freedom mean Christians should be able to live sinless lives? Why or why not?
10. St Augustine wrote: *"love God and do what you please"*. Is that what Paul's saying here? See if you can make a case for this.

Pray together for God's help in using our freedom wisely - not to gratify our own natures, but to serve one another in love.