

Rock Point Church Bill Bush | 8.24.25

WHY CHRISTIANITY FEELS ANTI-FREEDOM:

- PERSONAL HURT (controlling leaders, shame-heavy religion)
- CULTURAL STORY ("freedom = do what I want, when I want")
- SUSPICION OF POWER (morality seen as control)
- HISTORICAL BAGGAGE (crusades, inquisitions, slavery, stereotypes)

BIG IDEA: Jesus doesn't limit life; He unlocks it.

John 8:31-36 (NLT)

- ³¹ Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
- ³³ "But we are descendants of Abraham," they said. "We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, 'You will be set free'?"
- ³⁴ Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. ³⁵ A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

Truth frees.

"Freedom is not the absence of restrictions, but finding the right restrictions that set us free." - Tim Keller

Where have I been treating my feelings as truth instead of letting God's Word define reality?

Sin enslaves.

What "freedom" in my life is actually chaining me up, and how do I keep pretending it's not?

Jesus breaks what I can't.

"Freedom is not the liberty to do what we please, but the liberty to do what we ought." - Oswald Chambers

Where am I still trying to fix myself with rules instead of letting Jesus free me as His child?

• Freedom isn't the finish line.

Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

¹³ For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

Am I using my freedom mostly for myself, or am I using it to love, serve, and build something bigger than me?

Reflection Questions:

Where have I been treating my feelings as truth instead of letting God's Word define reality?

What "freedom" in my life is actually chaining me up, and how do I keep pretending it's not?

Where am I still trying to fix myself with rules instead of letting Jesus free me as His child?

Am I using my freedom mostly for myself, or am I using it to love, serve, and build something bigger than me?