

**Introduction:** What can you do to set the people you love up for freedom?

*<sup>31</sup> Jesus said, “If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

John 8:31b-32

Jesus gives unrivaled freedom to those who \_\_\_\_\_ His Teaching.

Jesus can set any captive free by the power of the truth, but it's dependent on willful, intentional, and consistent obedience to Him.

### When society followed Jesus' Words:

- We live at a time where, yes, society's imperfect, but we've inherited some fruits of freedom, prosperity, and even longevity of our lifespan that are unusual in history.
- The university system began in church cathedrals 1000 years ago at Oxford.
- Some of the most influential scientists in the scientific revolution were Christians who wrote passionately about their faith in God.

### When society discarded Jesus' Words:

- In the late 1800s, prosperity and success convinced people around the world that they didn't need God.
- Around the late 1800s Frederick Nietzsche said, "God is dead. We can build a better society without God. Let's keep the progress and the success and the technology, but get rid of the Bible."
- The 'post-truth' world has since caused some of the greatest human atrocities.

### Summary:

When societies \_\_\_\_\_ the words of Jesus, those societies lead the way in freedom. When societies \_\_\_\_\_ the words of Jesus, they lose those freedoms.

**Keep following Jesus, He's the path to freedom.**

### Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor John references the impact of Jesus' followers on literacy, education, and science. What surprised you about the connection between faith and those ideas?
2. Read John 8:32. What part of Jesus's teaching do you find easy to follow? What parts do you find more challenging to follow?
3. Where do you see Jesus' followers impacting others in your community? How are you sharing the light of Jesus with others in your family, work, school or neighborhood?
4. In John 14:6, Jesus claims that He is the Truth. What does it mean that Jesus is the Truth? In what ways do you need to reorder your life based on the truth of Jesus?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 3:7-18. How does the New Covenant, which brings freedom through Christ, compare to the Old Covenant?
6. Read Matthew 5:13-16. What would our society be like without faithful Christians? How are you acting as the salt and the light?