



TEXT:

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Supporting Scripture:

John 8:32-36

(Jesus said) 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.

Freedom from what? Freedom from the influence of the world becoming dominion in our life.

THREE AREAS OF INFLUENCE:

- Peer pressure:

What is the counterbalance? Our relationship with Christ is to be the counterbalance in everything in life, especially peer pressure.

- Enticement of experimentation:

If you allow the enticement of experimentation to take your thoughts and desire outside of God's creation, you are inviting the dominion of Satan into your life.

- Deceit of culture/media/entertainment:

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Main Point:

The power of the Holy Ghost is a transformative power—it is a force—to change us from dependence on our flesh and this world to dependence on a Holy God!

WHAT WE MUST TRUST:

1. Freedom in Jesus has _____.

a. Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

b. Galatians 5:13 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.

WHAT WE MUST TRUST:

2. Freedom and faith in Jesus _____.

a. Romans 8:15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father."

b. Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

c. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

WHAT WE MUST TRUST:

3. Freedom in Jesus does not _____.

a. Psalm 147:5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

b. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

c. 1 Corinthians 6:12 “I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything.

d. Ephesians 5:15-17 So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. 16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. 17 Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

e. James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!

Reflection:

1. Does fear hold you back from what God is leading you to do?

2. Rather than trust in your own thoughts about your future, trust in God for your future!