

LESSON  
**10** Your New  
Freedom

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Most people want freedom. Some want freedom from oppressive laws and harsh dictators. Still others want the freedom to say and do anything they please. But what is real freedom? Can a person in prison be free? Can someone in an unjust society be free?

The answer is yes. True freedom is not what is outside a person, but what is inside. In the Bible, Paul the apostle writes about “the glorious freedom of the children of God” (Romans 8:21). Only the children of God have true freedom!

This lesson discusses the freedom you have now because you are a child of God. This liberty sets you free from the terrible effects of sin. It liberates you from the fear that you will not be able to please God. It helps you overcome spiritual error and confusion. These blessings are yours because of what Jesus Christ has done for you. But they are just the beginning. Your new life of freedom will continue into eternity!

## *The Plan*

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- A. Freedom From Sin
- B. Freedom From Fear
- C. Freedom From Error
- D. Freedom From Confusion
- E. Freedom From Worry
- F. Freedom in the Future

## *The Goal*

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1. Describe the freedom you have as a child of God, both now and in the future.

### **A. FREEDOM FROM SIN**

**Goal 1.** Describe the freedom you have as a child of God, both now and in the future.

Jesus died to set you free from the guilt, punishment, power, and presence of sin.

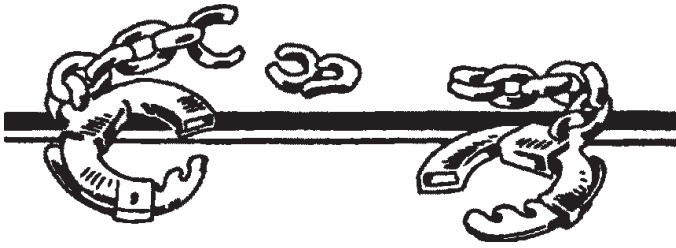
- **Guilt:** He took the blame for everything wrong that you have ever done.
- **Punishment:** You were condemned to die, but Jesus died in your place. By accepting Him as your Savior, you are free from the death sentence.
- **Power:** Jesus conquered Satan and broke sin's power over you.

**Romans 6:7–8** “Because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.”

**Romans 6:11** “In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

**Romans 6:22** “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.”

**Romans 8:1** “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”



## ***Application***

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- 1 You are set free from the guilt, punishment, and power of sin by
- a) doing penance for your sins.
  - b) deciding to be good from now on.
  - c) accepting Jesus as your Savior.
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- Temptation to sin: Some people are delivered instantly from their bad habits the moment they accept the Lord. Others fight for months or years against their craving for tobacco, drugs, or other vices; but as they keep on praying and believing, God gives them victory.

**John 8:36** “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

**James 4:7** “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

If you still have a battle against bad habits, do not give up. When the devil tempts you, claim by faith the freedom that Christ gives. Begin to praise the Lord for freedom, and you will soon get victory over the tempter. Your pastor will be glad to pray with you and help you.

You will face different kinds of temptation while you live on this earth. But these temptations are tests that will help you grow. You will become stronger each time you resist them. When you get to heaven, God’s work in you will be complete: you will be forever free from any desire to sin.

## Application

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- 2 Read John 8:36 and James 4:7 carefully.
- 3 Based on James 4:7, which statement is true?
  - a) The devil will defeat you if you try to resist him.
  - b) If you oppose the devil, he will go away from you.
  - c) The devil is not affected by what you do.



- Effects and presence of sin: Now you see sin and its effects all around you—suffering, sorrow, and death. Some glorious day you will go to your eternal home and be free from even the memory of sin.

## Application

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4 Following are several kinds of freedom from sin. Match the phrase (right) to each kind of freedom it describes (left).

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ..... a) Freedom from the guilt of sin       | 1. Freedom now and in the future |
| ..... b) Freedom from all the effects of sin | 2. Freedom in the future         |
| ..... c) Freedom from the power of sin       |                                  |
| ..... d) Freedom from the punishment of sin  |                                  |
| ..... e) Freedom from the presence of sin    |                                  |

5 Now that you are a Christian, why does God still allow you to be tempted to sin?

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## B. FREEDOM FROM FEAR

You are free from the fear of what others may do to you. Your life is under God’s care, “hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3). You may have to suffer for Christ’s sake or even die, but He will be with you every moment. Nothing can happen to you except what He permits.

**Romans 8:31** “If God is for us, who can be against us?”

You are free from the fear of witchcraft, the evil eye, and things that might bring bad luck. With the living Christ at your side to protect you, you do not need to use medallions, magic, fetishes, jujus, a glass of water before a picture, a charm on your child's wrist or neck, a picture of a guardian angel, or any other pictures or images to protect you. God is not pleased with your using and trusting in these things. He promises to protect you.

**Hebrews 13:5–6** “Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’ So we say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?’”

**1 John 4:4** “You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”

## *Application*

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- 6** The best way to be free from fear is to
- a) use strong magic.
  - b) trust in the Lord.
  - c) light candles to an image.
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## **C. FREEDOM FROM ERROR**

Satan has trapped millions of people in false religions. He gives them mistaken ideas of how to get to heaven. They pray to the sun and the moon, to rocks, rivers, and trees, and try to find the truth in dreams and revelations. They ask the spirits of the dead to help them. They burn candles and incense to idols made of gold, silver, wood, stone, or plaster. They offer sacrifices and make vows as they pray to spirits for help.

God's Word—not human ideas—shows us the true way to heaven. As you read God's Word, you discover the truth and are free from these errors.

**John 8:31–32** “To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

## Application

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- 7** We are set free from error by the
- a)** revelations we receive in dreams.
  - b)** ideas of other people about heaven.
  - c)** truth we learn in the Bible.
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In the following verses from the Bible, God strongly opposes the use of images and any form of spiritism. Now that you have given your life to Him, His commands are more important than any vows you may have made to idols. These commands are from God. He has the power to free you from promises that you have made to any images, spirits, or false gods.

**Exodus 20:3–5** “You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me.”

**Deuteronomy 18:10–12** “Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord.”

You are free from serving any spirits or false gods because you now belong to the one true God. You are also free from the power of evil spirits and from fear of what they might do to you. God’s Holy Spirit who has come to live in your heart is more powerful than any evil spirits that might want to torment you.

## Application

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**8** Have you practiced or believed any of the errors that have been listed in this lesson or in the verses from the Bible? If so, pray this prayer. Name all the practices that you now forsake. Ask God to set you free from them and any fear you may have because of them.



*Heavenly Father, You are the only true God. You are greater than anything in heaven or earth. I now turn away from .....  
..... and will never practice those things again. I will worship You alone, through Jesus Christ Your only Son, my Lord and Savior. Amen.*

## D. FREEDOM FROM CONFUSION

In the Old Testament of the Bible, there are many laws. Some people are confused about what these laws mean for us today.

Many of these laws are ceremonial in nature and belong to a covenant God made with the Hebrews many years ago. Moses received the terms of this covenant and all its rules for the new nation that he had led out of Egypt. The laws included instructions about sacrifices, holy days, forms of worship, cleanliness, and food. Some call this covenant the “Mosaic” law, naming it after Moses.

All these religious regulations were like pictures of Jesus Christ and the salvation He would provide. He would be the perfect sacrifice that would take away their sins. He would fulfill all that the Law stood for and would establish a new covenant with those who accept Him as Savior, whether they were Hebrews or not.

So the restrictions in the Mosaic law were for the Hebrews from the time of Moses to the time of Christ on earth. Since then, we are under the terms of the new covenant, the New Testament.

## Application

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- 9** The time period of the Mosaic law is from the
- a)** beginning of the world until Moses.
  - b)** time of Moses until the time of Christ on earth.
  - c)** time of Christ’s birth until now.



Some people get confused and think we have to keep Saturday as a holy day, as the Mosaic law required. But ever since Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, the Christians have had the custom of meeting on that day, Sunday, in memory of His resurrection. Since Bible times, they have called it “the Lord’s Day.”

Today, we set aside one day a week as a time to meet together to worship God. However, we do this not because of any rules or obligations. We do this because we love God and because the Holy Spirit gives us a desire to be with our brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Under the Mosaic law the people could not eat certain animals. Under the new covenant we are not bound by these restrictions. We have the same freedom that God gave humanity long before the Mosaic law. He told Noah that humans were not to eat blood, and this prohibition is repeated in the New Testament. But we can eat any kind of meat.

**Genesis 9:3–4** “Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.”

**1 Timothy 4:4–5** “For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”

**1 Corinthians 10:25, 27** “Eat anything sold in the meat market without raising questions of conscience... If some unbeliever invites you to a meal and you want to go, eat whatever is put before you without raising questions of conscience.”

**Colossians 2:16** “Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.”



## ***Application***

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**10** Circle the letter in front of each TRUE statement.

- a) The religious regulations of the Mosaic law were pictures of the perfect sacrifice, Jesus Christ.
  - b) Christians today must worship God on the seventh day of the week (Saturday).
  - c) Christians today are free to eat any kind of meat.
  - d) Rules about holy days apply to Christians today.
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## **E. FREEDOM FROM WORRY**

Your Father loves you and will take care of your needs. Trust in Him.

**1 Peter 5:7** “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

**Matthew 6:31–33** “So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

## ***Application***

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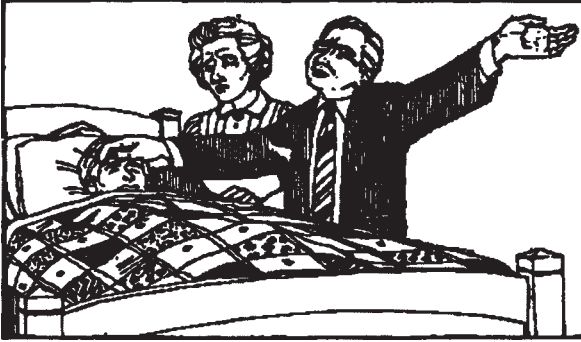
**11** Read 1 Peter 5:7 again.

Are you worrying about anything? Tell your heavenly Father about it. Thank Him for the answer and stop worrying.

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Sickness brings worry and anxiety into our lives. But this is another kind of worry we can leave with our heavenly Father. Jesus Christ, the Great Physician, is your best friend. He loves you. Just as He healed the sick when He was here on earth, He heals people today in answer to prayer. The Bible says that you should ask for the church elders (the pastor and the leaders) to pray for you when you are sick.

**James 5:14–15** “Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.”



The pastor and the elders may put their hands on you, or they may ask God to touch and heal you. Or they may anoint you with oil; this is a way of showing that they trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to make you well.

## ***Application***

**13** Do you need healing? Ask your pastor to pray for you. If you are studying by correspondence, the workers at the school will be glad to pray for you. Write them about your need when you send in your answer sheet.

Many people have had wonderful healings from God. But sometimes God chooses not to heal a person right away. For example, the apostle Paul prayed to God three times about a certain problem. God heard Paul's prayer, but God did not remove the problem. He said to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Whatever happens, though, you can trust God completely. One day He will change your body into one like that of the Lord Jesus. Your new body will be perfect! No disease, sickness, deformity, or weakness will ever cause trouble for you again.

## F. FREEDOM IN THE FUTURE

The freedom you have now is wonderful. But God has much more planned for the future. Jesus, the great liberator, will come back to earth for those who belong to Him. At that time you will know, at last, the full and glorious freedom of the children of God. Jesus will take you to your heavenly home. The whole creation will be set free forever from the presence and effects of sin.

**Revelation 21:4** “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

**Romans 8:18** “I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”

**Romans 8:20–21** “For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.”

### *Application*

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**14** Read Revelation 21:4. Thank God for His message and for the glorious future He has planned for you.

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Until Jesus comes to take us home, we will still have to battle against Satan. There will be temptations and trials, but we must not give up our freedom.

**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.”

Never forget that your new life and your freedom are in the Lord Jesus Christ. They depend on His presence and His power in you—not on how good you try to be. The Christian life is not about keeping a set of rules. It is about demonstrating “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27).

**2 Corinthians 5:17** “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

**Galatians 2:20** “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

## ***Application***

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**15** Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Galatians 2:20 again.

**16** Your new Christian life and freedom depend on

- a)** your keeping a set of rules.
- b)** how hard you try to be good.
- c)** what you know about religion.
- d)** Christ’s presence in you.



You have found in Christ a wonderful new life—eternal life with the glorious freedom of the children of God. Treasure it above all things; you will enjoy it more and more as the years go by and throughout the ages to come.

## **Check Your Answers**

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- 6 b)** trust in the Lord.
- 1 c)** accepting Jesus as your Savior.
- 7 c)** truth we learn in the Bible.
- 3 b)** If you oppose the devil, he will go away from you.
- 9 b)** time of Moses until the time of Christ on earth.
- 4 a)** 1. Freedom now and in the future  
**b)** 2. Freedom in the future  
**c)** 1. Freedom now and in the future  
**d)** 1. Freedom now and in the future  
**e)** 2. Freedom in the future
- 10** Statements **a** and **c** are true.
- 5** God allows temptations so you can learn how to overcome them and become stronger.
- 16 d)** Christ's presence in you.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

You have finished this course. We hope that it has been a great help to you! Remember to complete the second Unit Evaluation and return the answer sheet to your instructor.



