



Read Galatians 5:16. What does it look like to “walk in the Spirit?”  
How does walking in the Spirit break the power sin has over you?

God’s will for you is freedom, but it’s going to take a fight.

“You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my **teachings**. And you will know the **truth**, and the **truth** will set you **free**.”

“But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been **slaves** to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set **free**?’” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a **slave** of sin.” *John 8:31-34*

The nature of sin is to enslave.

“But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to **control you**. But you must **subdue** it and be its **master**.” *Genesis 4:7*

The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a **slave** to sin. I don’t really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don’t do it. Instead, I do what I hate. *Romans 7:14-15*

I want to do what is right, but I can’t. I want to do what is good, but I don’t. I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. *Romans 7:18-19*

How do you find true **freedom**?

1. You must be willing to die.

*Colossians 3:5*

And those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified** the flesh with its passions and desires. *Galatians 5:24*

For one who has **died** has been **set free** from sin. *Romans 6:7*

2. Yield your spirit to God’s leadership.

Don’t you know that when you **offer** yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience (to God), which leads to righteousness? *Romans 6:16*

But I say, **walk** by the Spirit, and you will **not gratify** the desires of the flesh. *Galatians 5:16*

3. Fill your mind with God’s truth.

*James 1:25*

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be **free**. *Galatians 5:13*

“Every man dies, not every man truly lives.” William Wallace

Do you want to truly live?

For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

### Introduction

Braveheart is a story of freedom. William Wallace decides he will not be enslaved, and decides to lead his people in a revolt against the tyranny of England. It’s God’s will for each of us to be free from the slavery of sin. But, in order for that to happen, it’s going to take a fight.

### Discussion Questions

1. Freedom is often times a misunderstood concept. How do you think most people would describe freedom?

God’s will for you is freedom. Read John 8:31-34. After listening to this talk, how would you describe the freedom God desires for you as a believer in Christ? How does this differ from the kind of freedom people desire?

2. If we are going to experience freedom, we must be willing to fight. Read Genesis 4:7. How has sin trapped you, controlled you, or dictated your choices? How does that trapped feeling or loss of control make you feel? Why?

3. When you are a slave to sin, you will find that will-power alone is not enough to break free. Read Romans 7:14-15 and 18-19. Why is it so difficult to break free from the control sin has over you?

4. In order to find freedom we must be willing to die (Galatians 5:24), yield to God’s leadership (Romans 6:16), and fill our mind with His truth (John 8:31-32). Which of these ideas do you find the most challenging? Why?

What steps will you take this week to find the freedom God wants for you?

### OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

Looking for ways to serve this summer? Shepherd Community needs help fulfilling their mission of keeping local children from going hungry. If you would like to serve as a group or a family, contact Kerry Carmichael, or visit [www.shepherdcommunity.org](http://www.shepherdcommunity.org) for details.

School systems are already preparing for how they can help families in need during the 2017-2018 school year. Will you collect and donate some school supplies and bring them in between now and July 2nd? (Yellow #2 pencils, folders with prongs, spiral notebooks, 24-packs of crayons, etc.) Further questions, please contact Kerry Carmichael at [kcarmichael@eclife.org](mailto:kcarmichael@eclife.org).

### Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are \_\_\_\_\_

I’m accountable for \_\_\_\_\_, and their action steps are \_\_\_\_\_

My memory verse is \_\_\_\_\_

This coming week, I’m praying for: