

Freedom in Christ – Week 4: Free to Serve

Scripture: Mark 10:35–45

Key Thought: “The world defines freedom by what you can get. Jesus defines freedom by who you can serve.”

Icebreaker

When you hear the word **freedom**, what is the first thing that comes to mind? How has your understanding of freedom changed as you've gone through this series?

Discuss

1. James and John asked Jesus for positions of honor. Why do you think status, recognition, and influence are so appealing to us?

- Where do you see our culture encouraging this mindset?
- Have you ever found yourself wanting recognition more than opportunities to serve?

2. Jesus said, "Not so with you." (Mark 10:43)

- What do you think Jesus was asking His disciples to unlearn about greatness?
- How would our homes, workplaces, and church look different if we truly lived by Jesus' definition of greatness?

3. Read Mark 10:45 again.

- Why is it significant that Jesus didn't just teach about serving—He modeled it?
- How does the cross become the ultimate example of servant-hearted love?
- Where else did Jesus model servanthood?

4. The sermon suggested one of the greatest obstacles to serving others is a heart focused on self.

Which of these tends to get in your way most often?

- My comfort
- My schedule
- My preferences
- My desire for recognition
- Something else

How can remembering your identity in Christ help you overcome that obstacle?

This Week's Challenge

Each morning this week, begin your day by praying:

"Lord, who can I serve today?"

Look for one intentional opportunity each day to serve someone without expecting recognition or anything in return. At your next group meeting, be prepared to share what happened and how it affected both you and the person you served.

Closing Prayer

Thank God for the freedom we have through Christ—not only freedom from sin and shame, but also the freedom to love and serve others. Ask Him to give each person a servant's heart that reflects the example of Jesus, who "did not come to be served, but to serve."