

MAIN POINT

As followers of Jesus, we both live in and proclaim the freedom of the gospel Jesus came to bring.

INTRODUCTION

What comes to mind when you hear the word free?

What is something you desire freedom from right now? How often do you think of that in connection to the work of Jesus on your behalf?

People must hear the gospel to be set free. We are free to share the gospel because of what God has done for us. As the followers of Jesus, we must be focused on sharing with our friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Jesus began His ministry by proclaiming his purpose and sharing His message of freedom.

DISCUSSION

> READ LUKE 4:16-21.

What are the key roles of the Messiah listed in this passage?

What is the significance of Jesus's use of this Old Testament prophecy to define His mission?

Think back to your conversion experience. How did Jesus fulfill His role as Messiah in your life?

Earlier we discussed what comes to mind when we think of freedom. What are some of our culture's ideas about what it means to be free?

How might cultural ideas about Jesus prevent people from experiencing freedom in Him today?

Read Luke 4:22. What are some of the attitudes that may have been behind the question, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

Why did the Nazarenes' familiarity with Jesus present a challenge to their acceptance of His mission?

Why is it sometimes hardest to share the truth of the gospel with a family member or close friend?

How should Jesus's description of His mission in Luke 4 impact the mission of churches and believers today? How do you see its impact at our church?

Read Romans 12:2 and 6:11. How do these two verses connect with freedom that is available in Jesus?

Why might someone be surprised by the Bible's definition of freedom compared with the world's?

APPLICATION

Where do you need to experience God's freedom? What steps do you need to take to turn this area over to Him completely based on today's study?