FORWARD: FREE LIFE Pastor Dennis Rouse March 25-27, 2016

Free Life: a life where God is in control of your life

John 8:31-36 NLT

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "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. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

3 Categories of People When It Comes to Sin:

- 1. Blinded to sin
- 2. Struggling with sin
- 3. Freedom from sin

The Big Question: "How do I really get free from sin controlling my life?"

Answer: Give yourself completely to God!

Romans 6:12-14 NLT

Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, GIVE YOURSELVES COMPLETELY TO GOD, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer YOUR MASTER, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the FREEDOM of God's GRACE.

Grace: God doing for us what we couldn't do for ourselves

2 Corinthians 5:15 MSG

He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a RESURRECTION LIFE, A FAR BETTER LIFE THAN PEOPLE EVER LIVED ON THEIR OWN.

John 3:3-8 NLT

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?" Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

John 3:16-21 NLT

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants."

2 Kinds of People in the Earth:

- 1. People who want God and LOVE TRUTH
- 2. People who don't want God because they LOVE DARKNESS

Picture of Free Life:

1. Freedom from guilt and shame

- 2. Freedom from rejection
- 3. Freedom from sin controlling you
- 4. Freedom to forgive
- 5. Freedom to love everyone
- 6. Freedom to make mistakes
- 7. Freedom to be who God created you to be!