

Questions for Small Groups : Galatians 5.13-26 'Spirit Centred'

In this letter that Paul wrote to the Galatians, he pleads with them to return to the freedom found in the grace of God and to throw off the slavery of adherence to the law. But once they gain this freedom, Paul encourages them to use their freedom in the right way, because freedom is a very powerful force.

1. How do you define freedom? When in your life have you felt most free?
2. What is the freedom that is found in the grace of God? How is it similar or different from other types of freedom?
3. What limits your freedom? The Galatians allowed themselves to be enslaved to legalism. What 'enslaves' you (it's a difficult question to answer but you might want to consider the more subtle influences/limitations).
4. Most people want to be free so that they can do whatever they want. And this usually means serving themselves. Where does this lead?
5. Paul turns this idea of freedom on its head. He instructs us to use our freedom to serve others. What would motivate Paul to instruct us to use our freedom in that way?
6. How have you experienced the fruit of the Spirit (5.22) when you used your freedom to serve someone else?

THINK ABOUT IT

In what ways would you say that you are led by the Spirit (5.18)? How can we become more dependent on the Spirit to lead us?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

In what ways could you use your freedom to serve someone else this week?

In what ways can you use your freedom to serve those who have little freedom?

INSPIRING

What do you find most inspiring about Galatians 5.13-26