

Connected With One Another

Serve One Another

Galatians 5:13

I. Message – Serve one another

a. The calling of Christian liberty

i. “For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty...”

1. Liberty - freedom within boundaries
 2. Liberty is Freedom WITHIN boundaries
 3. It is an American ideal – The goal of the founders was you having the freedom to discover and achieve the best outcome for you, your family, and your community
- ii. The idea of liberty is also a Christian ideal in a spiritual sense
1. When Paul wrote the letter to the Galatian church, he was fighting a tendency they had (humans have always had)
 - a. A tendency to keep going back to the bondage of religious rules instead of a right relationship with God through Jesus
 - b. Prefer religious checkboxes over true love for God
 - c. He strongly condemns it as “Another gospel” in ch.1
 - d. Galatians 2:16; 5:1
 - e. Paul’s message to these people: **Jesus has set you free**
 - f. John 8:31-32

b. The caveat of Christian liberty

i. “...only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh...”

1. Here is the caveat of liberty:
 - a. If you have freedom to choose a path
 - b. You have the responsibility to choose well!
2. It is sort of like a map
 - a. Point A – you, right now
 - b. Point B – “success” (the best use of your life)
 - c. You have liberty to get from point A to point B
 - i. **But be careful!**
 - ii. With freedom comes responsibility!
 - iii. Most people use freedom incorrectly
 - iv. And their life is a mess!

3. Romans 6:12-18

- a. What is Paul saying?
- b. Don't let your freedom put you in bondage to something else
 - i. **The freedom you have in Christ is not meant to free you to do what you want**
 - ii. **It is meant to enslave yourself to a better path to successful living!**
 1. It's not LAW gets you from Point A to B
 2. It is LOVE

c. The correct use of Christian liberty

i. **"...but by love serve one another."**

1. Are you saying Paul, that a Christian can actually live their life to absolute fullest potential without religious rules?
 - a. No walls, no fences, no guardrails?
 - b. Yes, because a true believer has something better than a list of religious rules, they have Holy Spirit
 - c. And the fruit of the Spirits is first, LOVE!
 - d. And love constrains us
 - e. **"all the law is fulfilled with love" – v.14**
 - i. And the Holy Spirit is WAY better than the Law!
 - ii. You don't need a long list of religious rules to reach your life's fullest potential
 - iii. Because the Holy Spirit guides us by LOVE
2. ****Notice that Paul is NOT saying JUST to leave the world better place**
 - a. That is not Christ's goal for humanity
 - b. THAT is not the gospel
 - c. He is more interested in eternity than the here and now – **"that I might gain the more"**
 - d. But Christians SHOULD leave world a better place
 - e. Serving others out of love!