



DISCIPLINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (the Road to Freedom)



LIES
SLAVES
DARKNESS

SLAVERY



TRUTH
SONS
LIGHT

FREEDOM

GOAL: VIEW DISCIPLINE THROUGH HARVEST LENS

WE REALIZE GOD'S
PURPOSE & PROCESS



WE SEE HOW IT
FREES US



WE CAN REJOICE
IN TRIALS

When we better understand the how, why and glorious end result of discipline, we will be better equipped to endure and even rejoice!

James 1:2-3
1 Peter 1:6-7
1 Peter 4:12
2 Corinth 12:9-10

DISCIPLINE IS MOTIVATED BY FATHERLY LOVE



(God treating us as beloved children, thus being careful to discipline us.)

John 8:31-32,
Proverbs 3:12,
Proverbs 13:24
Hebrews 12:6-8

John 8:31-36 (excerpts) "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.



THE GOAL OF DISCIPLINE IS FREEDOM THROUGH HOLINESS



So if the Son sets you free, you will be **FREE INDEED!**

John 8:36

- Holy Spirit = Spirit of Truth. (John 14:17)
- God's Word is Truth. (Psalm 119:160)
- Truth sets us **FREE**. (John 8:32)

DIVINE NATURE = HOLY/FREE



Galatians 5:22-23

WHAT DOES "FREE INDEED" LOOK LIKE?

- ✓ FREEDOM FROM PEOPLE PLEASING 1 Corin 4:3-4
- ✓ CONTENTMENT IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES Phillipians 4:11-12
- ✓ NO FEAR DESPITE STORMS/CIRCUMSTANCES Psalm 46:1-3
- ✓ PEACE/REST Isaiah 26:3, Matthew 11:28-30
- ✓ FREEDOM FROM OFFENSE Proverbs 19:11
- ✓ UNSHAKEABLE TRUST DESPITE CIRCUMSTANCES Job 13:15, Habakkuk 3:17-18
- ✓ GREAT STABILITY AND STRENGTH TO ENDURE Psalm 125:1, Psalm 62:6
- ✓ INCREASING LIGHT/JOY Psalm 97:11, Proverbs 4:18

This list keeping going and going...

WHAT FREEDOM DOES NOT LOOK LIKE

- ✓ ABSENCE of PROBLEMS John 16:33, 1 Peter 5:9
- ✓ APATHY for OTHERS Romans 15:2, Phillipians 2:4-5
- ✓ ABUSE of our New Standing 1 Corinthians 8:9, Galatians 5:13

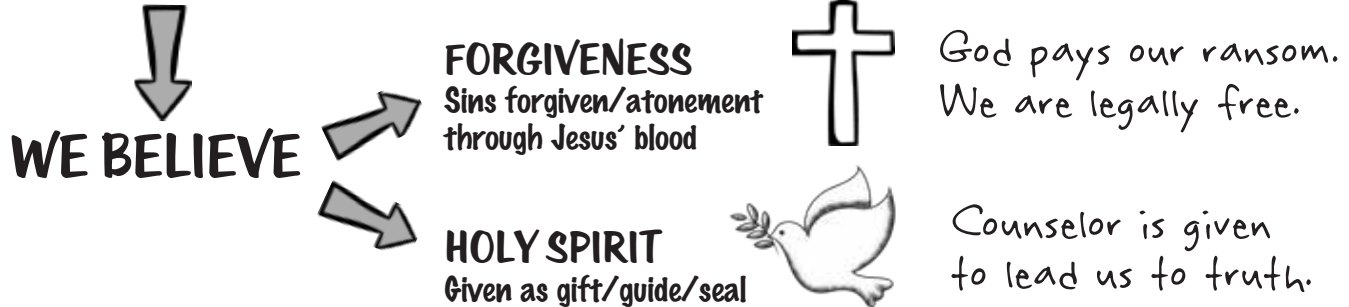
Jesus warned us, a fallen world means trouble (John 16:33). But, we can allow God to use it all for our good, and even give us "beauty for ashes" even after unimaginable suffering.

FREEDOM, PART I (JUSTIFICATION)

(the Rescue - from Slaves to Sons)



GOD CALLS TO US



- ✓ RESCUES US FROM THE DOMINION OF DARKNESS Colossians 1:13
- ✓ JESUS' blood atones for our Sins/Righteous Requirements of the Law are Met..... Romans 8:2-3
- ✓ JESUS' RIGHTEOUSNESS IS IMPUNED TO US 2 Corinthians 5:21
- ✓ THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION Romans 8:1
- ✓ WE ARE SEALED WITH HOLY SPIRIT Ephesians 1:13-14

FREEDOM, PART 2 (SANCTIFICATION)

(We become like Christ/Saints)

2 Peter 1:4

.. you may participate in the divine nature...

2 Corinthians 5:7

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Colossians 3:10and have put on the new self,
which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

2 Corinthians 3:18 are being transformed into his image with
ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.



➡ Legally we are free; to be like Christ, we must now must put off the old self and yield to the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE, THEN WE START RUNNING THE RACE.



We can't run effectively unless we drop the weight holding us back and focus on Jesus (we need God's help).

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

OUR HELP? THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH TRUTH = FREEDOM



We must USE this gift and let Him guide us daily. He will teach us and lead us to the truth!

John 14:17, John 14:26

vs. 17. "I will send another Counselor to be with you forever, the SPIRIT OF TRUTH.

vs 26. "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

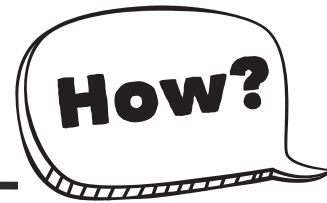
IF YOU WERE EXPLORING A DANGEROUS COUNTRY AND YOU FOUND OUT YOUR TOUR PACKAGE CAME WITH THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPERT ON THE TERRITORY, someone who knew EXACTLY the right way to go and how to avoid pitfalls and maximize the journey, would you make a move without their help?

NO WAY!

➔ Holy Spirit IS our expert guide! We can LEARN to discern His guidance and FOLLOW!



DISCIPLINE IS PAINFUL BUT PRODUCTIVE



Refines, Purifies, Prunes, Circumcises



UGG!

Malachi 3:3

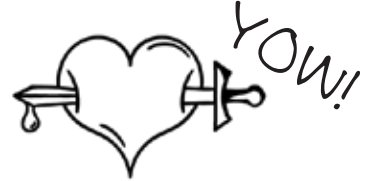
He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver,



OUCH!!

John 15:2

He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.



YOW!

Deuteronomy 30:6

The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Hebrews 12:11



CIRCUMSTANCES ARE A REFINING TOOL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“...if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”
Romans 8:13

1. Look at your life circumstances, and the people you engage.
2. Ask, “What fruit of the spirit could God be trying to produce in me?”
3. Ask, “What sin or weight could God be working to remove?”
4. Flip your perspective... “This pain can be used for my GOOD, for my FREEDOM!”



HE HELPS US SHED THE WEIGHT!

Now we can run with endurance and power!

DON'T RESIST THE WORK!

My Part?

(Don't be like The "Obstinate Toy Soldier")

"Imagine turning a tin soldier into a real little man. It would involve turning the tin into flesh. And suppose the tin soldier did not like it. He is not interested in flesh: all he sees is that the tin is being spoilt. He thinks you are killing him. He will do everything he can to prevent you. He will not be made into a man if he can help it."

- Excerpt from Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis

YIELD TO HOLY SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

My Part?

The Spirit will try to speak to us, we must listen and obey and grow in willingness to heed.



Don't quench the spirit. 1 Thessalonians 5:19

Don't grieve the spirit. Ephesians 4:30

Endure hardship as discipline. Hebrews 12:7

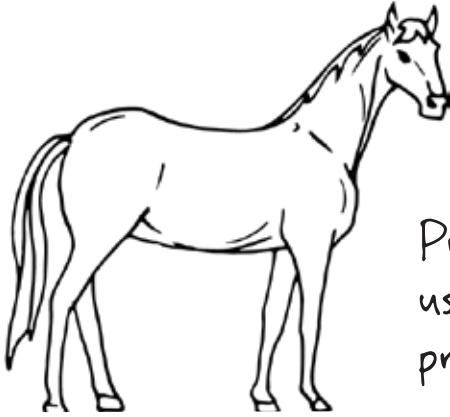
HOW DOES THIS PLAY OUT?

Listening for the gentle whisper,
promptings toward right behavior and thinking.
Heeding that voice, more obediently each time.

RESIST BEING RE-ENSLAVED!

ALERT!
Warning!

Don't be like the horse that runs back to the burning barn after being led to freedom.



Pressure or "heat" can tempt us retreat to deceitful practices (what we know).



Once we are free we must fix our eyes on Jesus and NOT on the old life or its deceitful desires.

Galations 5:1, Psalm 32:9

'FREE PEOPLE' FREE PEOPLE

KEY TRUTH



Being made into the image of Christ means we share His anointing to set people free.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed."

Luke 4:18

Keep pressing on toward the goal: **FREEDOM!**

THE ROAD TO FREEDOM/PERFECTION - THE PROCESS CONTINUES

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

The work will never be finished here (on earth) but as long as we keep submitting to God, He will keep changing us into His likeness. He will keep leading us to deeper levels of freedom. This is a reason to REJOICE!

“The command Be ye perfect is not idealistic gas. Nor is it a command to do the impossible. He is going to make us into creatures that can obey that command. He said (in the Bible) that we were ‘gods’ and He is going to make good His words. If we let Him—for we can prevent Him, if we choose—He will make the feeblest and filthiest of us into a god or goddess, a dazzling, radiant, immortal creature, pulsating all through with such energy and joy and wisdom and love as we cannot now imagine, a bright stainless mirror which reflects back to God perfectly (though, of course, on a smaller scale) His own boundless power and delight and goodness. The process will be long and in parts very painful, but that is what we are in for. Nothing less. He meant what He said.”

- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity