

Unlocking Freedom In Your Life, Part 6: Free To See

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **This Week: Free to See! Free from deception and believing lies.**
 - o Believing lies and untruths and living in deception is devastating.
 - **John 5:14-16.** The church isn't waiting for the world to shape up; God is waiting for the church to change the world!
- **Matt 7:3-5**
 - o The first deception is focusing on fixing them rather than yourself!!
 - The key to being free to see is me working on me!!!
 - o This is actually a very important thing that we must get right. Jesus describes a great deception inside the church later in this chapter, **Matt 7:21-23.**
 - That's harsh. Compare to **James 1:22-25.**
 - People doing religious things but missing God. How prevalent is that?
- Let's not be like that!! So, how do we get the plank out of our eye?
 - o The key to this is found in a very difficult passage.
 - o **2 Thessalonians 2:8-12**
 - Paul is talking end times with the Thessalonians. There is too much in there to talk about, but let me tell you LOVE THE TRUTH!!
- What is your relationship with truth?
 - o Are you hiding from it? Do you like to bend it? Are you just ignoring it? Do you like to spin it? Are you reimagining it?
 - o LOVE THE TRUTH!! FACTS ARE OUR FRIENDS!!
 - o So, instead of delighting in evil and refusing to love the truth, let do the next verses:
2 Thessalonians 2:13-15.
 - Isn't it good to be saved!! Love the Gospel! It is truth!
 - What are all of the characteristics of the believer in these verses?
 - Brings us back to **John 8:31-32** and the three steps!
 - Apply LOVE THE TRUTH to the three steps. (hold to, know, free)
- Is refusing to love the truth just an unbeliever problem, or also a believer problem??
 - o What do some people (Christians too) love more than the truth that often leads them into deception?
 - o Discuss the following:
 - Love being right. Very bold and confident, but still wrong!
 - The better you are at arguing, the more likely you are wrong!
 - Love drama or controversy. Emotional need for them to be wrong.
 - Simplistic vitriol is never actually truth.
 - Love your photo shopped image! Don't you pretend!
 - Tell your people about your weaknesses, they already know!
 - Justifying your sins while blaming others. (back to the plank)
 - Sin makes you stupid. You don't see truth anymore.
 - Loving what you would prefer to be true.
 - We don't get to pick. We must discover. Take your horse out of the race.
 - o If you don't love the truth, you can't know the truth and get free!
- I've got some good news for you. You don't have to be afraid of the truth.
 - o Turns out that God is good! God is on your side rooting for you! Our God is our redeemer, deliverer, healer, and savior! You do have an enemy, but God will help you fight! There are other people who love God too!
- You are charged by Jesus to see clearly. **Luke 11:34-35**
 - o Let's ask God for eyes to see and ears to hear.
 - Pray for each other before you finish up!