

Freedom

John 8:31-59

Key Verse: 8:31-32

1. Read verses 31-32. To whom is Jesus speaking? What does it mean to be Jesus' disciple? What does it mean to hold to his teachings? What is the truth? What is the result of knowing the truth?
2. Read verses 33-36. How did the people respond? What freedom did Jesus mean? How can slaves be set free? (Ex 6:6; 1Pe 1:18,19, Jn 14:6) What is the difference between a slave and a son? How does the truth set us free? How does Jesus set us free?
3. Read verses 37-41. Why did these physical descendants of Abraham try to kill Jesus? (Jn 5) How do their actions deny their claims? Read verses 42-47. If God were their father, how would they treat Jesus? Who is their real father? Why could the Jews not accept Jesus' words?
4. Read verses 48-53. What did they call Jesus a Samaritan and demon-possessed? How did he answer? What did Jesus promise to those who keep his word? How is the promise similar to verse 32? How did the people react? What had the Jews and Jesus previously said about Abraham? (33, 39, 40)
5. Read verses 54-58. What did Jesus teach them about Abraham here? How does Jesus know this about Abraham? What is the significance of Jesus saying, "before Abraham was born I am" instead of "before Abraham was born I was"? What does this show us about why Jesus is able to set us free? Why did the Jews reject Jesus' claims and try to stone him?