

Pastor Faith Schierholt

For Sunday, June 28th
"True Freedom"

Psalm 15 – NIV

- ¹ Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?
Who may live on your holy mountain?
- ² The one whose walk is blameless,
who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from their heart;
- ³ whose tongue utters no slander,
who does no wrong to a neighbor,
and casts no slur on others;
- ⁴ who despises a vile person
but honors those who fear the Lord;
who keeps an oath even when it hurts,
and does not change their mind;
- ⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest;
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things
will never be shaken.

John 8:31-38 – NIV

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

³⁴ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷ I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. ³⁸ I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you are doing what you have heard from your father."

Takeaway: True freedom comes from abiding with Jesus in His Word, where truth sets us free.

Questions:

1. The Greek word for "abide" is throughout the Book of John. What word image comes to mind when you read Jesus' words in John 8:31-32?
2. What does it mean to be enslaved to sin (John 8:34), and how does this differ from temptation or even failing from time to time?
3. Jesus' followers claimed their identity was being Abraham's descendants, but Jesus knew their motives. Where do our true identities reside?
4. What does it mean to you to be bound to Jesus in 2026?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20260628.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/xrIXLmRU3yA>

Alternate Service Video: <https://wpcwestlake.livecontrol.tv/ae321cfa>