

40 Days of Prayer & Devotion to Easter

Day 21

Freedom is one of those words that we love! We love the freedom we have as U.S. citizens; we love the freedom we have to worship as we please, we love the freedom to vote and express our choices in who will lead our nation. We tend to guard our freedoms and rarely feel pressed to give them up to someone else.

When it comes to our willingness to serve others, how well do we embrace the freedom to serve? For our part, we prefer to be served than serve. We like being first when it comes to standing in line. We prefer that others yield to us as we drive rather than allowing them on the freeway ahead of us. We often struggle with that idea of being free to serve others, largely because we want to be served rather than to serve!

Paul said that he was free from all men, not under bondage but free to live as he wished under the leadership of the Lord! Sometimes that meant he set aside his personal freedom so that he could serve others. This included the Jews who would persecute him and the Romans who would hold him as prisoner and even the pagans who stoned him after rejecting his message of grace! He saw all these people as the ones for whom Christ had died and as the very ones who needed to hear that Gospel message! In that freedom he chose to serve others by presenting the Gospel so that some might come to Christ! .

Today I ask you, "Who will you serve so as to win some to Christ?" It is not easy, but it is rewarding! For you see you have the freedom to serve in the name of Christ!

– Pastor Bud Jones

For though I am
free from all men,
I have made
myself a slave to
all, so that I may
win more.

– 1 Corinthians 9:19

