

If The Son Sets You Free, You Are Free Indeed - Zanga Schutte, September 15, 2024

Set Free John 8:36 NIV So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Notes: Being set free in our faith means we're not chained to our sin, past or potential. We're free to accept the forgiveness and grace of Jesus when we screw up or fall short. We can repent from our sin, ask forgiveness, and surrender our burdens at the cross with our Savior. Sin prevents us from following Christ, and He sets us free so we can follow Him. In order to have freedom from sin, we must trust Christ to set us free.

Hold on to Christ's Teaching John 8:31-32 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."

Notes: Jesus himself is the truth that sets us free. He is the source of truth, the perfect standard of what is right. He frees us from continued slavery to sin, from self-deception, and from deception by Satan. He shows us clearly the way to eternal life with God. Thus, Jesus does not give us freedom to pursue harmful actions or dangerous beliefs but freedom to have new and overflowing life as we follow him. As we seek to serve God, Jesus' perfect truth frees us to be all that he created us to be.

Freedom in Christ: Galatians 5:1 NIV It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Notes: Jesus Christ died to set us free from sin and from a long list of laws and regulations. But he did not free us to do whatever we want, because that would lead us back into slavery to our selfish desires. We are delivered from the bondage of sin and its punishment, death, and have new life in Christ. That is the freedom we are promised. The freedom we have in Christ is the freedom to live in faith, to put all our hope and trust that God welcomes us through His Son into His holy kingdom.

New Creation: 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Notes: When we pledge our faith to Jesus Christ, we become brand-new people on the inside. The Holy Spirit gives us new life, and we are not the same people anymore. We are not reformed, rehabilitated, or reeducated—**we are re-created**, new creations living in vital union with Christ. **At conversion** we do not merely turn over a new leaf; we begin **a new life** under a new master.

Righteousness of God: 2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Notes: When we trust in Christ, He takes all our sin upon himself and makes us right with God. He bore the punishment for our sins on our behalf. God poured all our sin on Christ at his crucifixion, and he poured all of Christ's righteousness into us at our conversion. This is what Christians mean by "Christ's atonement for sin." -Normally, bartering works only when two people exchange goods of relatively equal value. But through this eternal transaction, God offers to trade his righteousness for our sin—something of immeasurable worth for something completely destructive. How grateful we should be for his kindness to us.

Rooted in Him: Colossians 2:6-7 NIV ⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Notes: New life in Christ starts and continues when we acknowledge him as leader over all we are and do. Then we must accept his leadership daily by being rooted, built up, and strengthened in the faith. Christ wants to guide us and help us with all our decisions and challenges.

Examples: We Can Live for Christ By 1. Committing our life and submitting our will to Him

Romans 12:1-2 NIV says, ¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is —his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Seeking to learn from Him and more about Him, his life, and his teaching

Colossians 3:16 NASB Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

3. Recognizing and utilizing the Holy Spirit's power within us

Acts 1:8 NIV "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Notes: The power believers receive from the Holy Spirit includes courage, boldness, confidence, insight, ability, and authority. We need all these gifts to fulfill our calling. If we believe in Jesus Christ, we have the power of the Holy Spirit in our life. Ask God to fill us with these same gifts in order to fulfill his mission for us.

Closing: Remember **John 8:36NIV** If the Son has set you free, you will be free indeed. Amen and Amen