

FREEDOM PRINCIPLES FOR DAILY LIVING

How do we live each day with a lifestyle that enables us to walk in freedom? Scripture gives us clear answers to that question. We'll start with the verse which summarizes how we are to live with and because of Who Jesus is. No matter your point of struggle, God will have an answer for you. **Try it His Way.**

John 8:31-32, 34-36

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

1. Confess sin immediately. When the Holy Spirit speaks into your heart and mind and tells you just messed up by what you did, said or thought, BE QUICK to respond by dealing with it. Do what the Bible says, it's the best way. Remind yourself of Psalm 139:23-24, then memorize 1 John 1:9 and keep this verse alive in your spirit.

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends You, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

1 John 1:9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

2. When negative thoughts come, you must rebuke them and replace them with positive thoughts. How we think will determine what we do, how we will speak, how we will react or act. Don't let your thoughts, when contrary to the Word of God, stay! They must be rejected for your good and others.

Philippians 4:8 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

Make sure the thoughts that enter your mind fall in this category.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.

3. Premeditated sin will invite demons. Often, we can feel uncomfortable speaking about demons and what they do. However, they are real, and they are out to attack you and all that you hold dear. When we allow sin to be planned and carried out, we are playing into their influences. They will seek to suggest more and more ways to live contrary to what the Bible teaches. When that happens, they win by rendering you ineffective in your Christian walk and it opens the opportunity to trouble your family. Therefore, we need to keep our plans holy and pleasing to God. How?

1 John 5:3 Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome.

1 John 3:22 And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.

4. As you walk in obedience, there will be increased freedom. Dismiss immediately painful memories of your past and live in anticipation of life without bondage. Be careful of what you allow your mind to dwell upon, especially of your past. Bring your past to Jesus. Ask Him to heal the pain from your past. Ask Him to help you in forgiving those that have wronged you. Then, stand against the devil's words that you are hopelessly held by what happened to you. Or, that you have to wear a label tying you to your past. When you bring it to Jesus and lay it down at His feet, He will heal and release you from the pain of your past, in Jesus Name.

Philippians 3:13-14 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

5. Never forget that satan and all of his demons are liars. Learn to recognize the lie. One of the favorite ploys of demons is to try to convince you that what took place when you brought things to Jesus was only emotional and that you are still in the enemy's grip.

John 8:44 For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

James 4:7-8 1) So humble yourselves before God. 2) Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 3) Come close to God, and God will come close to you. 4) Wash your hands (Correct the wrongs, you can), you sinners; 5) purify your hearts (make things right with God and others), for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

6. Trust God daily to help you make correct choices, and He will! Sometimes we forget to daily ask God to help us make wise choices. As soon as you remember, invite God to help you.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.

Galatians 3:3 How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect (mature, having a solid foundation in Christ) by your own human effort?

7. Use the Name of Jesus, the Blood of the Lamb, and your confession of faith against all of satan's temptations and condemnation. This is so important, as all of these points are. All condemnation comes from satan. Never believe him. Remember, the best he can do is lie. You have been cleansed by the precious, costly, powerful blood and through the name of Jesus Christ; you are blood protected!

Hebrews 10:23 (NKJV) Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Revelation 12:11 And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.

Romans 8:1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

8. Quote scripture to yourself each day. It will enable you to strengthen your faith and trust in God. God's Word is powerful and effective in overcoming the lies, temptations, trials, fears, doubts, and negative thoughts from controlling who you are and how you will live your life. Declare the Word of God.

Psalm 119:11 (Ampl) Your word I have treasured and stored in my heart, that I may not sin against You.

2 Timothy 3:14-17 14 But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. 15 You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

9. Allow the Holy Spirit to direct your life—all of you, all the time. Daily invite the Holy Spirit to guide your life each day and perhaps several times a day.

John 16:8 And when He (Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.

Galatians 5:16-18 (TPT) As you yield freely and fully to the dynamic life and power of the Holy Spirit, you will abandon the cravings of your self-life. For your self-life craves the things that offend the Holy Spirit and hinder Him from living free within you! And the Holy Spirit's intense cravings hinder your old self-life from dominating you! So then, the two incompatible and conflicting forces within you are your self-life of the flesh and the new creation life of the Spirit. But when you are brought into the full freedom of the Spirit of grace, you will no longer be living under the domination of the law, but soaring above it!

10. Sing and again, I say, SING-Singing has a way of lifting our spirits, reminding us of Who God is, and the devil does not like it. Why does it seem to be a battle to sing unless it really bothers the devil. Soooo, let's bother the devil a lot!

1 Chronicles 29:11-12 O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, may You be praised forever and ever! Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is Yours, O Lord, and this is Your kingdom. We adore You as the One Who is over all things. Wealth and honor come from You alone, for You rule over everything. Power and might are in Your hand, and at Your discretion people are made great and given strength.

Psalm 47:6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Isaiah 42:10 Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing His praises from the ends of the earth!

Sing, all you who sail the seas, all you who live in distant coastlands.

Revelation 5:13 And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: "Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the One sitting on the throne and the Lamb forever and ever."

Freedom in Jesus is YOURS today. I pray the Holy Spirit will give you insight in how and when to utilize the resources God has made available to you to overcome the works of hell coming against, because those works are DEFEATED!

-Compiled by Pastor Gary Howse

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(All references are from New Living Translation unless otherwise noted. The names satan and devil are purposely NOT capitalized.)