

Knights of Columbus Council 9638
Lecture October 13, 2025
Freedom



The day the hostages will be set free would be good idea to reflect on the word freedom.

Freedom is a fundamental element of liberty. It's a concept, a value, a feeling.

"The Four Freedoms are fundamentally at odds. Freedom of speech and worship involve only the individual who makes a choice to act – or not to act – while freedom from want and fear requires society to take collective action, and for us to be responsible for one another. The freedom we enjoy as individuals is possible only in and through our community." – Franklin Delano Roosevelt

It's also an essential human requirement, and something most people agree is worth fighting for. But what does freedom mean in our daily lives and the lives of others? What does it require of us?

In 1941, Franklin D. Roosevelt explored these questions. Roosevelt – a master communicator (and frequent contributor to *Liberty* magazine) – delivered a State of the Union address to millions of Americans, as they gathered around radios in parlors and tenements, just as they had for his famous "fireside chats." In his familiar, reassuring voice he introduced the nation to a concept he called the Four Freedoms:

1. Freedom of speech an expression
2. Freedom of worship
3. Freedom from want
4. Freedom from fear

What have you done to promote freedom in our community: