



Freedom Begins with Following Jesus

"If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."

— Luke 9:23

Welcome

When people hear the word *deliverance*, they often think of a single moment. A prayer. A ministry session. A breakthrough.

While God certainly works in powerful moments, His work in your life is much bigger than a single day. Freedom begins long before a ministry session. It begins when you respond to the invitation of Jesus.

Every step you take toward Him is a step away from the darkness that once held you. That is why the first invitation of Jesus was never, **"Come and experience deliverance."** It was, **"Follow Me."**

What Is Jesus Teaching You?

Jesus did not call people to a moment.
He called them into a relationship.
He invited fishermen to leave their nets.
He invited tax collectors to leave their old lives.
He invited sinners to receive forgiveness.
He invited weary people to find rest in Him.
Again and again, His invitation was personal. **"Follow Me."**

Following Jesus is not merely agreeing with certain truths about Him. It is learning to trust Him, obey Him, and walk with Him every day. As Jesus Christ becomes your lifestyle, you begin discovering that freedom grows where a relationship with Him grows.

A Lie You May Be Believing

Maybe you've believed that freedom depends on finding the right person to pray for you. Or maybe you've begun thinking that one ministry session will solve everything.

God certainly uses people.
He has always worked through faithful servants.
But no servant can take the place of the Savior.
No ministry session can replace a daily walk with Jesus Christ.



The deepest freedom is found, not in a single experience, but in continuing to follow Jesus.

What Difference Does This Make?

When you understand that freedom begins with following Jesus, your perspective changes. You no longer wait passively for someone else to fix your life.

Instead, you begin walking with Christ today.

You open His Word.

You pray honestly.

You repent when He convicts you.

You forgive as He has forgiven you.

You trust Him even when your journey is not yet complete.

Every step of obedience becomes another step toward the freedom He is producing within you. As Jesus Christ becomes your lifestyle, freedom is no longer something you chase. It becomes the fruit of faithfully walking with Him.

How Should This Shape the Way You Live?

Before asking, "**When can I have a ministry session?**"

Ask, "**Jesus, how can I follow You more faithfully today?**"

Spend time with Him.

Listen to His Word.

Respond to His voice.

Obey what He teaches you.

Bring every burden to Him.

Whether your journey includes a ministry session or not, never stop following the One who called you. Remain close to Jesus.

Don't miss this.

The safest place for your life has never been beside a minister.

It has always been beside your Shepherd.

A Prayer

Father, thank You for calling me through Your Son.

Teach me to follow Jesus with all my heart.

Help me trust Him more than I trust my own understanding.

Give me a willing heart that responds to Your Word with obedience.

Strengthen me by Your Holy Spirit as I continue walking with Christ each day.



May my greatest desire never be merely to experience freedom, but to know and follow the One who gives it.

In the precious name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

An Invitation

Before you continue reading, spend some time with the Lord.

Read the Gospel accounts where Jesus calls His first disciples.

Notice that He doesn't invite them into a program.

He invites them into a relationship.

Then quietly ask, **"Jesus, what does following You look like for me today?"**

Listen with an open heart.

Maybe He is calling you to trust Him.

Maybe He is inviting you to forgive.

Maybe He is asking you to surrender something you have been holding tightly.

Whatever He says, take one faithful step.

Remain close to Jesus.

As you continue following Him, you will discover that freedom is not simply an event you experience. It is the ongoing work of the Savior who faithfully leads His disciples one step at a time. And as you walk with Him, you will find that the greatest freedom is not merely being released from what once held you.

It is learning to live every day with the One who has set you free—Jesus Christ.