

TREASURE QUEST

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OF THE HEART



Declaring Independence With Dependence

As we celebrate Independence Day, we remember our founding fathers who were brave enough to stand up against the way the world of their day worked and demand their freedom. They didn't just claim freedom, or complain about not having it. They were willing to sacrifice greatly to obtain freedom.

Christ died to give us even greater freedom than we enjoy as Americans. He gave us freedom from death, from the power of sin, and from the claims of this world. Many times, we don't live as free people but walk through life constantly allowing ourselves to be chained down and bound by the same things from which Jesus set us free. In Galatians 5, Paul addresses this same type of slavery. He challenged the Galatians Christian to not allow themselves to be drawn back into what they had already been set free from.

So Christ has really set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery...¹³ For you have been called to live in freedom -- not freedom to satisfy your sinful nature, but freedom to serve one another in love.

Galatians 5:1,13

How can you declare independence from sin, death, and this world in your life? You declare independence by declaring dependence on God. It is a powerful paradox that in binding ourselves to God we find greater freedom than we could ever know any other way. It may seem cliché, but one of the most practical steps in doing this is in giving. By giving, we break the chains of materialism on our life and grow in our dependence upon God for true provision.

Questions to Think About

- What things in your life have you allowed to take your freedom in Christ?
- If you began to really give back to God, how would it make you depend more fully on Him?

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