

# “Are You Truly Free?”

Based on John 8:30-36 (NIV)  
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching  
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† Liberty, by definition, means “freedom from slavery.”

*John 8:31-33*

*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."*

*33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"*

† History shows that the Jews were slaves in Babylon, in Egypt, and presently to the Romans.

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† Jews placed a tremendous value on freedom.

† Americans place a tremendous value on freedom.

*John 8:34-35*

*34 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.*

*35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.*

† Jesus is saying that freedom is a gift from God.

† I often think that if I focus on my sin that I can get rid of it.

† Instead of focusing on ridding sin from my life, I need to focus on adding Jesus to more of my life.

*John 8:36 - So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."*

† If I recognize the truth of who Jesus is, the Son of God, and I, as it says in Verse 31, “hold my (Jesus’) teachings,” then I will be truly free.

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† True freedom is not doing what I want.

† True freedom is doing what God wants me to do.

## Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† What sin am I a slave to (Example: Lust, greed, stealing, love of money, overwork, over eat, etc.)?

† How have I tried to stop my sinning?  
Was my focus on the sin or on Christ?

† When am I most likely to want things my way and not God’s way?

† What is one thing I can do to put more focus on God’s way and less on my way?