

## **Salvation Freedom**

Romans 8:1-17

### **Discover**

Salvation is God's gift to the world. Jesus Christ died on the cross to rescue the human race. Freedom is the right to act and speak as we desire without resistance or persecution.

The truth is the most important pursuit of our lives: to search the world for answers to why we exist, what our purpose is, and what the future holds. The gospel of Jesus Christ as Son of God, Savior of the World, and King of Eternity provides the unshakeable foundation for everything we believe and every decision we make. (Colossians 1:15-17)

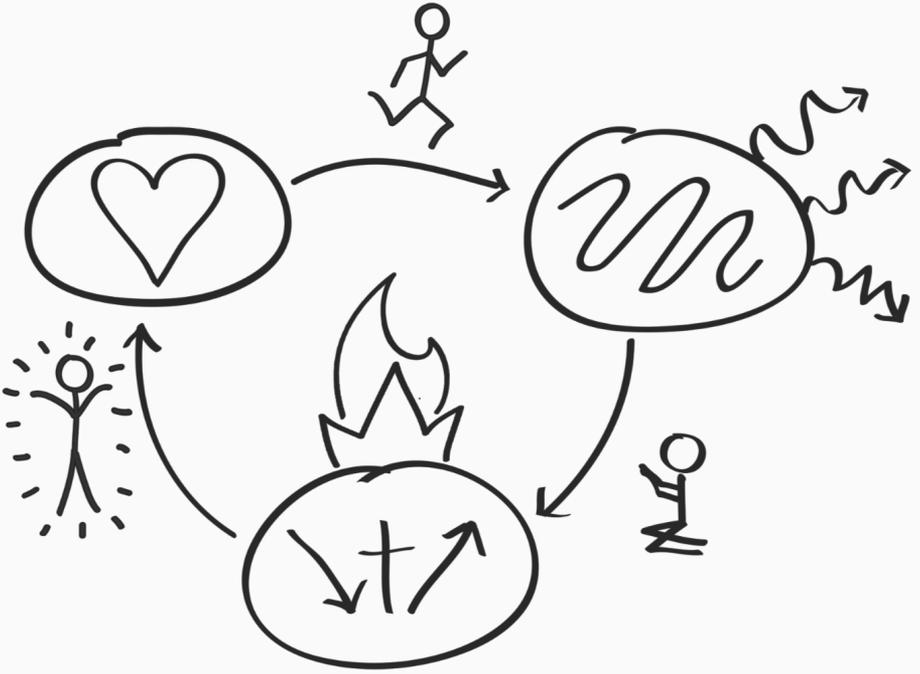
Our Father desires everyone to be delivered out of slavery to the troubles of this corrupted world and adopted into his family as heirs to his divine kingdom. (Romans 8:15-17)

We are all like the lost son who wanted to enjoy his life far away from home. He lost everything. (Luke 15:11-14)

Jesus is the faithful Son we must become. While we wander in darkness lost and confused, God sent his Son to rescue the nations. He opened up a righteous pathway for anyone who believes to live by faith in his Messiah. (Hebrews 5:7-9)

The gospel message is an invitation to the most significant decision anyone will ever make: to drink deeply from this Salvation Fountain, singing his praises, for we are restored back to a relationship with our Creator. (Isaiah 12:3-4)

This lesson provides a foundation for our discipleship mission. Our salvation and eternal life are grounded in what God did through Jesus Christ, not what we do to practice being good people. This teaching sets our aim on knowing, experiencing, and depending upon Jesus for everything.



# SALVATION FREEDOM



ROMANS 8:1-17

## Draw

Father's heart: circle & heart - God's heart is for everyone he creates to become his sons and daughters: praising his holy name and enjoying our relationship with him. God loves the world, and we call him "Abba Father." (8:14-15)

Rebellion: arrow & running man - Everyone turns from God and runs far away, choosing to live apart from his design and separated from his presence. God made us to worship him, but our flesh makes us live for ourselves. (8:7-8)

Bondage: circle, winding path, & arrows - When we wander away from God, we become broken. We fall into bondage: living in spiritual darkness and blind to the truth. Our flesh is our rebellious nature. We reject God's commands. (8:12-13)

Surrender: arrow & praying man - When we learn about Jesus, we discover his call to turn from rebellion, surrender to him as Lord, and receive his forgiveness. When we surrender to Jesus, we die to our old lives and are reborn into his resurrection life. His life lives within us. Jesus saves! His life grows in us as we spend time with him. (8:10-11)

Jesus & the Holy Spirit: circle, arrows, cross, crown, & flame - Our Father sent Jesus to die as the perfect cure for our rebellion. His resurrection from the dead proves that he is the Son of God. Jesus received all authority in heaven and earth as Heaven's Salvation Door for all who believe. The Old Covenant Law of Moses required death and sacrifice for forgiveness; Jesus' death was the final sacrifice. (8:3-4)

Restored: arrow & praising man - As God's adopted sons and daughters, we are now eternal coheirs with Christ. We sing his praises and enjoy his presence. We were under condemnation because of our rebellion; now, we are alive and free in Christ through the Holy Spirit. (8:1-2,16-17)

## **Discuss**

Romans 8:4 mentions a “righteous requirement” necessary to live God’s way. What is this righteous requirement, and why is Jesus the only one able to fulfill it?

Take a closer look at Romans 8:5-11. Why do you think we still rebel against God sometimes rather than walk in the Spirit? What are some signs that we are wandering away from God even after we have decided to follow Jesus?

When you pray, do you call God “Father?” Why or why not? According to Romans 8:15-16, if you do not speak to God as Father, do you think you should? How does the picture of a good father transform our daily relationship with God?

We see one clear purpose in 1 Peter 2:9-10 for why Jesus saves us. What is this purpose? Are you participating in this mission? If so, how? If not, what is one next step you can take towards living out this purpose personally?

## **Disciple**

Let’s get practical. Romans 8:15 reveals the daily struggle between slavery and sonship, fear and courage. Whom do you know that wrestles with some clear type of spiritual bondage? What is one simple next step you can take this week to guide your friend closer to salvation freedom?

## **Dedicate**

Heavenly Father, thank you so much for adopting us as beloved sons and daughters through Jesus’ death and resurrection. Please help us embrace your truth that we are now free forever from all condemnation. Please give us eyes to see people we know in need of freedom, and the faith and courage to reach out to them with compassion and peace, in Jesus’ name and for his glory we pray, amen!