



4. A heart set free Acts 16:16-24

1. Jesus Christ has the power to set you free

- More to evil than simply nature or nurture
- There is both natural and supernatural evil
- Jesus came to rescue a people whose hearts had been vandalised by evil
- What he started in the Gospels his followers carry on in Acts
- “A girl who had a spirit” – an evil spirit/demon
- Girl is doubly enslaved – an evil spirit and earthly masters
- Paul displays Jesus’ authority as he sets her free
- Reality is we are all slaves to something: ordinary life (Lydia), outside forces (girl), reputation (jailor)
- The good news of Jesus has the power to set us free for something greater

2. Freedom comes at great cost

a) Jesus Christ has paid the great cost

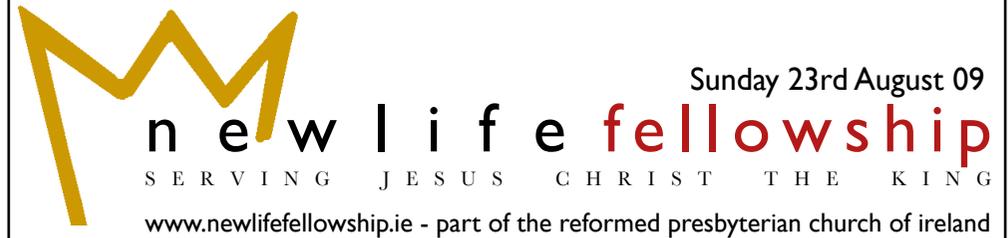
- The Good news is that at the Cross Jesus defeated the massed forces of evil so that people could be set free
- With his death he has cancelled the right sin has to hold us captive
- Paul’s command is based not on his authority, but on Christ’s victory

b) Freedom can only be received at a cost

- 2 aspects to the cost
 - The girl loses her gift and her income – willing to accept cost for sake of freedom
 - Owners miss the glorious rescue, can only see their loss
- Jesus’ rescue always comes with a cost to us
- Cost is found in putting him first – (Luke 9:57-62; Luke 14:25-33)
- When the cost looks too great, we need to look at what he paid
- Temptation is an attempt to enslave us again – Look at the cost Christ paid for your freedom. (Gal 5:1)

c) Freedom can only be offered at a cost

- Paul and Silas beaten and imprisoned
- Paul willing to pay this cost because he saw what Jesus paid for him
- Motivation for evangelism & mission is found at the Cross
- “If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him” CT Studd – Cricketer & Missionary
- If we expect others to find Christ worthy of following, we need to live in such a way ourselves.
- This comes by delighting in what Jesus has done for you, not simply following him.



Sunday 23rd August 09

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S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Good morning and welcome this morning. We are having a bite of lunch after the service this morning and would love you to stay.

Notices

Sunday Praise time - Day Centre 8pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - feedback, prayer time and supper with the mission team
Mark & Judiths at 9pm

Sun - Fri Go Team - 8 young people coming to work here for the week, distributing a magazine around Letterkenny and doing other outreach work.

Covenanter Youth Summer Conference

Sat 29th August - What’s the deal with Church Membership?

3pm - 11-15 years @ Ballyclabber - Robert McCollum

3pm - 16+ @ Portrush - Prof Robert McCollum

7pm - Everyone @ Ballyclabber - Prof Robert McCollum

Young Adults’ Weekend - 11th-13th September - Annalong, Co Down

Speaker - Rev Andrew Lucas on Ruth

Application Forms available - need to be in by 30th August

Christianity Explored

A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, and to find answers to your questions the Bible and Christianity.

- You don’t need to know anything about the Bible
- You won’t be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

If you’re interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark

Sunday 30th - Philippians - The Greatest Question (Acts 16:25-40)

Opening Psalm: 105:12-17

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie

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