

Series: Victory in Jesus

Title: Are you His Disciple?

Text: (John 8:31-32)

Jesus wants us to have Life More Abundantly:

(John 10:10) *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*

What does that Mean?

Life: Active, Vigorous, Devoted to God, Blessed

Abundant: *abounding; having in great quantity; overflowing*

Abounding in Activity.

Abounding in Vigor/ Passion.

Abounding my devotion to God.

Abounding in Blessings.

I want that, Don't you?

Illus: *Invited to a Mexican Birthday Party!*

Eating Thanksgiving back in Illinois.

Food without Seasoning. ~ Bland, not enjoyable.

Eating without being Satisfied.

Existing without purpose.

Jesus wants us to experience the Fulness of Joy:

(Ps 16:11) *Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*

I want the Fulness of Joy, Don't you?

Jesus wants us to be free from the Power of Sin.

(Jn 8:31-32) *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

True Victory is to be free from the Power of Sin in our lives.

All that Jesus has purchased with His blood is ours to have and use as a part of His body.

The Resources of Victory:

The indwelling Holy Spirit & The Word of God

The Same two weapons that gave Jesus the Victory will give us the Victory too.

Jesus used the same 2 weapons the 1st Adam had.

(Luke 4:1) The Holy Ghost

(Luke 4:8) The Word of God

Illus: *There is a Trick to Everything!*

Any Task is easy to do if you know how!

I love YouTube!

I don't try anything on the truck until I Youtube it!!!!

Everything is easy to do if I know how!

If Jesus had YouTube, He would show you... (Jn 8:31-32)

Let's Dissect and Define these 2 verses...

Jesus Gives us The Formula for Freedom: (Jn 8:31-32)

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 Ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall Make you Free.

(A) Believe on Jesus: (John 8:31a)

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him"

Believe ON Jesus, not just IN Jesus.

What is it you were saved from?

What do you tell yourself?

“I know I am a sinner, but I am not as bad as someone else”

“Well, No One’s Perfect.”

The Reason the Scriptures uses the word “ON” is because,
When you come to the end of all your excuses,
When you come to the end of all your Reason, &
When you come to the end of all your efforts
You realize that you are still a hell bound sinner without Hope
You have no other choice than to through yourself ON the
mercy of Christ & receive His Forgiveness .

Illus: Jim Tyler argued for his own righteousness.
(Rom 3:10) *There is non righteous no not one.*

Jim Tyler tried to bargain with God for his soul with promises
of future good deeds.

(Is 64:6) *All our Righteousnesses are as filthy rags.*

Jim Tyler, @4am realized you can’t buy gold with garbage.

Jim Tyler Cried out to God in Shame, Confessed his sin,
threw himself upon Christ’s Mercy & was gloriously saved.

This is where the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit happens:

It all starts here: (1 Cor 2:14) *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Maybe this why my sermons don’t seem very interesting.
Maybe this is why you don’t understand the words I use.

Illus: *There is a leadership Rule.*

If you have to continually keep reminding people your the Leader, “I hate to break it to you? then you aren’t.

If you are continually having to remind yourself & others that you are a christian, then there is a problem.

If you volunteer the fact that you go to church, & it surprises your co-workers: Thats a Problem!

I Know what your thinking... *“I know, Its hard to believe someone as Intelligent as I would be religious, because I am so smart, Did I tell you how smart I am?”*

Trust me: that’s NOT what they are thinking.

There was a time when being called a Christian meant something.

If you are continually Justifying your sin, You have a problem that Jesus can solve today!

Illus: *There is a saying in Texas, “All Hat, No Cows”
All Boaster, No Payload; All Powder, No Shot;*

Is your Christianity all Talk & No Substance?

If you want Victory, then you HAVE to be Saved?

If you are relying on anything other than Jesus death on the cross, You need to address this today.

In Baptist circles, thats called “Chaising a Rabbit”

Let’s get back to (John 8:31)...

(B) Continue in His Word: (John 8:31) *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word,*

IF This is a conditional promise.

IF We are going to have Victory,

We are going to have to want Victory!

God has left the Choice up to US!

God is not going to Force Freedom on us!

Illus: As BAD as I want it for my kids/family, I can only imagine HOW Much God wants it for us!

IF We are going to **have** Victory,

We are going to have to **want** Victory for ourselves!

To Want Victory, We are going to have to WANT to break Sin's Power in our lives.

We have to stop making excuses for it.

We have to stop Relabeling it to make it seem less a Problem.

The areas of your life that are out of alignment with God are not Struggles, or Weaknesses, or Excusable. **They are Sin!**

They are not a Disease, they are SIN!

They are not a Predisposition, they are SIN!

They are not an Orientation, They are SIN!

It doesn't matter how you identify yourself,

God is your Creator.

As Our Creator, He gets to Categorize us.

As Our Creator, He gets to Identify us.

As Our Creator, He gets to Define us.

If we are going to experience Victory, we are going to have to want it more that we want to please our Flesh.

Confess, Repent, & Walk with God.

“IF” The Choice is ours, God's not going to make us.

(John 8:31) *“If ye **Continue** in my word,”*

Continue~To persevere; to be steadfast, consistent & constant
“in my Word”

This is a daily consumption of God's Word!

Let's Dissect (Josh 1:8) to help us understand.

(Josh 1:8) *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth;* (Keep it in your mouth)

Illus: If you could memorize it by eating it, every dog in America would be a MATH wiz!

“I'm Sorry, my dog ate my homework!”

Why keep in your mouth?

(Say it over & Over again - So we can **Memorize IT!**)

*but thou shalt **meditate** therein day and night,*

Meditate: To dwell on any thing in thought; to contemplate; to study; to turn or revolve any subject in the mind; **THINK**

Illus: If you work for a living, you are PAID to think?

How many of you would say after your last team meeting, your company is NOT getting their money worth?

WHY Meditate/Think? that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein:

So WE can APPLY IT & LIVE IT!

This is why we need the Indwelling Holy Spirit as our Teacher!

(1 Cor 2:12) *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.*

(Josh 1:8) **“for”** (because) Here Comes the Consequences of Thinking and Applying the Word of God!!!!

(Josh 1:8) **“THEN”** *thou shalt make thy way prosperous, & then thou shalt have good success. **By Thinking/Applying it.***

***Are you Continuing in His Word?
Is God getting His Grace worth of Meditating from you?***

If we Believe ON Him
If we Continue/Meditate on His word.

(C) “THEN” We are His Disciple: (John 8:31) *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;*

Disciple: A follower; an adherent to the doctrines of another. To Learn, Receive his Doctrines & Precepts.
Doctrines: Live His Direct Commands
Precepts: Embody His Character & Principles taught by His example.

We are not His Disciple unless We Believe on him & Continue in His Word.

(Matt 16:24-25) *Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: & whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.*

When did you read the bible last? SS doesn't count.

What did you learn?

What did you think about?

How did it apply to you?

What did God say to you about it when you talked with him about it?

You cannot be filled with the Spirit until you willingly Submit yourself to Him through His Word.

This is the Secret to Victory-The Filling of the Holy Spirit

Speaking to a large audience, D.L. Moody held up a glass & asked, “How can I get the air out of this glass?”

One man shouted, “Suck it out with a pump!”

Moody: “That would create a vacuum & shatter the glass.”

After numerous other suggestions Moody smiled, picked up a pitcher of water, and filled the glass.

“There,” he said, “all the air is now removed.”

Victory in the Christian life is not accomplished by “sucking out a sin here and there,” but by being filled with the Holy Spirit.

A Disciple is not a Sin Sucker outer,

A Disciple is someone who submits themselves to the Filling of the Holy Spirit by daily meditating on God's Word.

Illus: *We Think, If we can just get away from this sin, we will be OK. NO, that just leaves a VACUME.*

We Need to be filled with the Spirit!

Let's Review...

(Believe on Jesus) + (Continuing in His Word) + (Be His Disciple) then....

(D) *You Will Know Truth:* (Jn 8:31-32a) *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 Ye shall know the Truth, and **the Truth shall Make you Free. (Freedom)***

As a Disciple, we will Know Him/The Truth.

(John 14:6) He is the TRUTH

We will know Jesus, though His Word.
We will have that intimate relationship where we commune together.

We share each other's company.
We will know Him.

Know Jesus=Know Truth
Knowing Him/Truth, The Truth shalt make you free.
Knowing Jesus, Makes Us Free!

So here is where the Spiritual Algebra comes in!

(A) + (B) + (C) + (D) = Freedom
(Believe on Jesus) + (Continuing in His Word) + (Be His Disciple) + (Knowing the Truth) = Freedom

Victory in our Christian life is the Freedom from the Controlling Power of Sin:

Requires Choosing to Yield our will to the Holy Spirit.

Are you His Disciple?
Are you Continuing in His Word?
Have you Believed on Him?

Come and ask God to start the process of Freeing you to Victory!

Commit now, to be at both the morning and evening services to learn to appropriate victory in your lives daily.