

Spring Quarter 2022  
Unit III: Liberating Letters  
Children's Unit III: Liberating Letters  
May 22, 2022 Lesson 12

# “Freedom and the Law”

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church  
Sunday Church School  
Nathan Johnson, D.D. Senior Pastor  
Sister Irma Wise General Superintendent  
Deacon Emanuel Haley Presenter

Topics:

Adults/Young Adults:

**Freed to Love**

Youth:

**Love One Another**

Print Passage: Galatians  
5:1-15

Children's General Lesson  
Title:

**Free to Love Others**

Children's Topic:

**Love One Another**

Print Passage:

Galatians 5:1-15

Adult/Youth and Children Key Verse:  
Galatians: 5:14, NLT

“For the law can be summed up  
in this one command:  
Love your neighbor as yourself.”

# Unifying Lesson Principle from the Townsend Press Sunday School Commentary:

- Sometimes people feel bound by laws and desires that keep them in chains.
- Where can we find freedom to experience life in transforming ways?
- According to Galatians, God calls us to a freedom that is guided by love for others.

# A. Standing Firm in Freedom

Galatians 5:1

<sup>1</sup>So, Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.

## B. The Law Demands Total Commitment

### Galatians 5:2-6

<sup>2</sup> Listen! I, Paul, tell you this: If you are counting on circumcision to make you right with God, then Christ will be of no benefit to you.

<sup>3</sup> I'll say it again. If you are trying to find favor with God by being circumcised, you must obey every regulation in the whole law of Moses.

<sup>4</sup> For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! You have fallen away from God's grace.

<sup>5</sup> But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us.

<sup>6</sup> For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love.

## C. Stern Words for the Troublemakers

### Galatians 5:7-12

<sup>7</sup> You were running the race so well. Who has held you back from following the truth?

<sup>8</sup> It certainly isn't God, for he is the one who called you to freedom.

<sup>9</sup> This false teaching is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough!

<sup>10</sup> I am trusting the Lord to keep you from believing false teachings. God will judge that person, whoever he is, who has been confusing you.

<sup>11</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, if I were still preaching that you must be circumcised—as some say I do—why am I still being persecuted? If I were no longer preaching salvation through the cross of Christ, no one would be offended.

<sup>12</sup> I just wish that those troublemakers who want to mutilate you by circumcision would mutilate themselves.

## D. The Way of Love

### Galatians 5:13-15

<sup>13</sup> For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

<sup>14</sup> For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

<sup>15</sup> But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.



# Digging Deeper

- Discern the differences between legalism and the freedom that comes with responsibility.
- Experience freedom as trusting in the work of Christ rather than their own efforts for salvation.
- Choose a life of freedom in Christ that is guided by serving and loving others with humility.