

**Title: Feel Free – Galatians 5 13-18**

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Read:

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<sup>13-15</sup>It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then? <sup>16-18</sup>My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are antithetical, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don't you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence?

Think:

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Do you know anyone who claims that they are a Christian and yet doesn't seem to act like one? Maybe it's a mate from youth group, who just acts completely different at school. Maybe you discovered that someone at college goes to Church, but you would never have guessed by the way they act. Paul warns against this. He says, look just because God has given you your freedom, you don't have the right to go about your life in a way that doesn't show you are thankful. Put it like this. Your mate needs to use a computer and you have the latest, fastest beast on the planet. You say no problem, use mine, I trust you, feel free any time. Then it happens, the next time you use your computer it is completely trashed. There are viruses everywhere, half your data is missing, and there are loads of pirated software on it. How do you feel now? Do you feel that your mate has used the freedom you gave him wisely? Of course you don't, you are going to have to start from scratch and you probably won't let them use your computer anymore. Well it's a simple message, if that's how you feel, then don't do the same to your life. Gods given you the freedom to use your life wisely, don't take advantage.

Pray:

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Lord there seem to be so many chances for us to trash our lives. Please help me choose to live a life that you would want me to live. Amen.

Action:

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What is trash in your life right now? Chose to ditch whatever is rubbish today. Ask God to help you. Bye.