TEXT: John 8:31-59

In this passage we see that Jesus alone can give us the true freedom we need, because he alone possesses the truth that frees us. Jesus shows us that such freedom doesn't come to us by any earthly heritage, but by faith in Christ, the great "I Am". Only the gospel sets us free, and if the Son sets us free, we are free indeed!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

HEAD: Questions aimed at our minds to help us *understand* God's word.

- The previous passage tells us that Jesus is now speaking to those who initially believed in him (v.30), but they now have a hard time comprehending his words. What does he tell them and what is their response?
- What does this passage in its entirety tell us about the supposed "belief" in verse 30? Is it genuine? Or is it false?

HEART: Questions aimed at our affections to help us *love* God.

- The Jews who responded were putting their hope in their physical ethnic connection to Abraham. According to Jesus, who are the true descendents of Abraham (ie. God's people). What false hopes are we tempted to look to for freedom?
- What does Jesus teach us here about the seriousness of sin? How does the Gospel set us free? (ie. What does Jesus set us free *from*? What does he set us free *to*?)

HANDS: Questions aimed at our hands to help us *live for* God (Personally, Communally, and Missionally).

 Jesus shows us that true faith leads to ongoing obedience; abiding in his words (see also John 15:1-15). What does it mean to abide in Christ? Evaluate your current spiritual health in light of this. Are you abiding in Christ? What means of grace as God given to help you grow in abiding in him? What are some practical ways you can help one another abide in Christ?

DIG DEEPER

- Before Abraham Was (Article)
 https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/abraham-was/
- By Grace We Are Free in Christ (Article)
 https://www.ligonier.org/blog/grace-we-are-free-christ/