

# WHO I AM IN CHRIST | PART 3

NOTES

## TODAY'S IDENTITY STATEMENTS

I am free

I have the mind of Christ

## I AM FREE

### Key Scriptures

John 8:34-36: "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin... if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed"

Romans 8:1-2: "No condemnation for those in Christ Jesus... the law of the Spirit of life has set you free from the law of sin and death"

### WHAT WE'RE FREE FROM

- Former bondage to sin
- Fear and finality of death
- Inability to choose alternatives to sinning and dying
- Being subjugated under the law and helpless to meet its demands
- The fallen spiritual ruler of this world (Satan, demonic oppression)

### Understanding True Freedom

It's not about "cans and can'ts" - it's about life and death

**The Lion Analogy:** Like a fence at the zoo - God's boundaries aren't withholding good from us, they're protecting us

Freedom in Christ = choosing life-producing vs death-taking options

### Supporting Scriptures

Galatians 5:1: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free"

Galatians 5:13: "Called to be free, but don't use freedom to indulge the flesh - serve one another in love"

2 Corinthians 3:17: "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom"

### Key Insights

- Only someone who's free gets to choose NOT to do something
- We have freedom TO protect our freedom ("do not let yourselves be burdened again")
- This freedom is spiritual, not fleshly - it's tied to God's Spirit and empowerment
- Freedom is designed for service - serving God and blessing others

## I HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST

### Key Scripture

1 Corinthians 2:12-16: "We have received God's Spirit... we have the mind of Christ"

**What This Means**

- We have access to God's thoughts, divine perspectives
- We possess the thoughts/mind of Christ
- This is available and accessible to all believers

**How This Changes Our Living**

- Continually let God's Word inform and shape us
- The mind of Christ = the Word of God
- Our minds are being renewed by "the washing of the water of the word"
- We live from what we believe to be true about ourselves
- If I believe I have Christ's mind, I'll seek God's mind and will in every situation

This causes us to live up to the standard that comes through God's Word

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

Colossians 3:1-2: "Set your hearts/minds on things above, not earthly things"

1 Peter 1:13-16: "With minds alert and sober, set your hope on grace... be holy as God is holy"

Galatians 5:16: "Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify desires of the flesh"

**THE BALANCE: GOD'S PART VS OUR PART****The Fridge Analogy**

God's part: Food is provided, paid for, available in the fridge

Our part: We must get up, go get it, prepare it, and eat it

Key principle: "It's not earning, but there is a doing"

**Two Extremes to Avoid**

1. Thinking God does it all (removes our agency) - God can't move through our inactivity
2. Thinking it all hinges on us (benches the Holy Spirit) - we lose God's power

**Practical Steps**

- Look in the spiritual fridge - read God's Word regularly
- Know what spiritual resources are available
- Block out worldly labels and identities (generational, cultural, etc.)
- Remember: "I'm not a Gen Z/Boomer/etc. - I'm a child of God"

**Key Takeaway**

Our behavior is heavily influenced by how we think about ourselves. Understanding who we are in Christ - free and possessing His mind - transforms how we live and serve others for God's glory.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## NOTES

1. Many people see religion/s as something bound by rules and restrictions, that there is more a sense of being captive than the concept of freedom. But we are reminded here that we have been set free, and so how is it that if God calls us to a right standard of living, how does that make us free?

2. Freedom from sin is only a price that Jesus could pay, how does knowing what it cost Him affect the way we use, or possibly abuse this freedom?

3. We have a real enemy out there, that is doing everything he can to draw us away from the pursuit and fellowship of Jesus. One of his tactics is the mind (thoughts, emotions, reactions etc). Now that we have the mind of Christ, what can we do to combat the tactics of the enemy when it comes to our own minds?

4. Having the right mindset matters, and daily habits help us move forward. But the mind of Christ isn't just self-improvement—it's the work of the Spirit in us. What does it look like to partner with the Spirit in shaping our mindset while still walking in the freedom Christ has already given us?

**Challenge:** This week, begin each day by praying:

“Holy Spirit, shape my thinking today. Help me walk in the freedom Christ has given me and guide my thoughts to align with Yours.”

Then choose one intentional mindset habit to practise daily this week—such as:

- Replacing negative self-talk with truth from Scripture
- Pausing to invite the Holy Spirit into stressful or decision-making moments
- Declaring a specific truth like: “I have the mind of Christ” or “I am not ruled by fear, but by peace”

At the end of each day, reflect:

Where did I notice my thoughts shifting toward Christ? Where did I try to control things myself instead of relying on Him?

Write one sentence to summarise your growth or awareness each day.