

# **FREE TO SERVE**

(Galatians 5:13-15)

INWARD
OUTWARD

## Galatians 5:13-16

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.



# The Foundation

Galatians 5:13a

For you were called to freedom, brothers.



## Galatians 1:8

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.



# The Qualification

Galatians 5:13b

Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for  
the flesh . . .



“What is God’s law now? It is not above a Christian--it is under a Christian. Some men hold God’s law like a rod, in terror, over Christians, and say, “If you sin you will be punished with it.” It is not so. The law is under a Christian; it is for him to walk on, to be his guide, his rule, his pattern: “we are not under the law, but under grace.” Law is the road which guides us, not the rod which drives us, nor the spirit which actuates us. The law is good and excellent, if it keep its place.”

~Charles Haddon Spurgeon



INWARD  
OUTWARD

## Titus 2:14

[Jesus] gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.





John 14:15

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

INWARD
OUTWARD

## The Command

Galatians 5:13c

. . . but through love serve one another.

INWARD
OUTWARD

“Each of us should become a Christ to the other. And as we are Christs to one another, the result is that Christ fills us all and we become a truly Christian community.”  
~Martin Luther

INWARD  
OUTWARD

# The Fulfillment

Galatians 5:14

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



## 1 John 4:20-21

If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.



# The Fulfillment

Galatians 5:14

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



## The Warning

Galatians 5:15

But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



“Thus it must be a decisive rule of all Christian community life that each individual is prohibited from talking about another Christian in secret.”  
~Dietrich Bonhoeffer

INWARD  
OUTWARD



## Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

INWARD
OUTWARD

“How unhappy, how mad it is, that we who are members of the same body should voluntarily conspire together for mutual destruction.”

~John Calvin



INWARD  
OUTWARD

## The Way

Galatians 5:16

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify  
the desires of the flesh.

INWARD
OUTWARD

## Ephesians 5:18-20

. . . be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ . . .



## Colossians 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



Luke 11:13

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!



Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

INWARD
OUTWARD



INWARD  
OUTWARD