

FREEDOM TO CHOOSE.

(Kaikohe CF - 11/8/91 - EKB)

1. **We have died to sin.** *Rom 6:3* says this, and if we are dead to sin, then sin, no longer, has power over us. Christ has set us free from sin's power. Read also *Rom 6:11,14*.
 2. **Water baptism** is the point at which we focus on the fact that we have died with Christ, been buried with Him, and raised up with Him, by the glory and power of God, to walk in newness of life, *Rom 6:3,4*.
 3. **In our identification with Christ** in His death, we have become dead to sin and the old nature of self, *Rom 6:6*. We have been freed from sin, *Rom 6:7*.
 4. *Col 3:3* We have died, and our life is hid with Christ in God.
Col 2:12. We have been buried with Him in baptism, and also raised with Him
through faith in the working of God.
 5. *Eph 2:1-3* We **were** dead in trespasses and sins. We **once** walked in the way of this world. We **once** walked under the prince of the power of the air. We **once** lived to fulfil the lusts of the flesh.
Eph 2:4-10 **But** (hallelujah!), **God made us ALIVE together with Christ**, *v4,5*. He **raised us up** together and **made us sit** together in heavenly places in Christ, *v6*. Saved by grace, through the faith He gave us, *v8*, **we are now** His workmanship in Christ. Hallelujah again!
 6. This is what **GOD HAS DONE FOR US** in Christ. **We are now responsible to receive this, believe it and by prayer, faith and discipline turn it into godly, Christ-like daily living.**
 7. God's goal for each of us is to:
 - a. be like Him, *Rom 8:29*.
 - b. do what He did, *Jn 14:12*.This is summed up in *Eph 4:13* as coming to the fulness of Christ.
 8. **Because of what God has done for us in Christ we are able to:**
 - a. "put off" the old life of sin, *Eph 4:22, Col 3:9*.
 - b. "put on" the new man of Christlikeness, *Eph 4:24, Col 3:10*.We can say "no" to temptation to sin, *1Cor 10:13*, and "yes" to doing what God wants. We can say "no" to the sins of the flesh and "yes" to the fruit of the Spirit.
- We are free in Christ to choose who we will serve:**
- a. Christ or b. sin. *Josh 24:15, Deut 30:11-14,19*.
9. We are free to say:
"No" to unthankfulness and "yes" to thankfulness, *1Thes 5:18*.
"No" to unbelief and doubt and "yes" to truth and faith, *Jam 1:6-8*.
"No" to neglect of God's Word and "yes" to meditating in God's Word, *Ps 1:1-3*.
"No" to lack of love to God and "yes" to pleasing God, *2Cor 5:9*.
"No" to neglect of prayer and "yes" to powerful prayer, *1Thes 5:17*.

“No” to neglect of fellowship and “yes” to fellowship, *Heb 10:25*.

“No” to neglect of witnessing and “yes” to boldly witnessing, *Ac 1:8, Ac 4:20, Mat 4:19*.

“No” to slackness in service and “yes” to zeal for Christ, *Jn 2:17, 1Cor 15:58*.

10. **There is a choice to be made in every situation.**

Heb 11:24,25.

a. Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter,

b. and chose to be identified with the people of God.

Gen 2:9 - every day there are **two trees** we can choose to feed from:

a. the Tree of Life which is Christ,

b. the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil which is the way of man and independence from God.

Mat 7:13,14 - always there are **two roads** we can walk:

a. the narrow gate and difficult road in Christ which leads to life, *Jn 14:6*,

b. the wide gate and broad easy way that leads to destruction, *Pro 16:25*.

God puts it this way in *Deut 30:19*.

“I set before you this day,

a. life and blessing or

b. death and cursing.

So **choose life**, that both you and your descendants may live.”

11. So say:

“No” to pride and “yes” to humility and service, *Gal 5:13, Lk 18:14, 1Pet 5:5,6*.

“No” to envy and “yes” to thanking God for His blessing on others.

“No” to judging others and “yes” to praying God’s blessing on them, *Mat 5:44*.

“No” to lying and “yes” to speaking the truth in love, *Eph 4:15*.

“No” to stealing and “yes” to working with your own hands so that you can give to others, *Eph 4:28*.

“No” to rebellion and “yes” to obeying God, *2Cor 5:9*.

“No” to fear and “yes” to boldness for Christ, *Mat 10:32,33, 2Tim 1:7, Pro 28:1*.

“No” to cheating and “yes” to being just and fair, *Phil 4:8*.

“No” to robbing God and “yes” to tithing and redeeming the time, *Mal 3:8-10, Eph 5:16*.

“No” to bad temper and “yes” to self control, *Gal 5:23*.

“No” to self pity and “yes” to keeping your eyes on Christ, *Col 3:2, Heb 12:2, Ps 34:1-3*.

12. *Jn 8:31-36*

Christ has set us free from the power and control of sin so that **we are free to choose to obey and serve God**.

13. “Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.....But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord,” *Josh 24:15, Gen 18:19*.