

## SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Jesus wants us to be free.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS:

John 8:12-30  
John 8:31-36  
John 8:37-59  
Romans 13:1-14  
Galatians 5:1-18

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What are the forces or influences in your friends and neighbors lives that most influence their behavior?

John 8:31-36

What are the key words in this passage?

Who is Jesus talking to?

What is Jesus trying to tell them?

What are they hearing?

Why do the people Jesus is talking to react so strongly to what He says?

What are the lies we tell ourselves and how do they keep us from being free?

What is the truth Jesus wants us to know?

How will this truth make us free?

What is one thing that would change in your life if you were truly as free as Jesus wants you to be?

### PRAYER FOCUS:

Praise God for being true.

Agree with God about the lies that you let control your life.

Thank God for truth.

Ask God for the courage to act on truth.

## FAMILY RESOURCE

Big Idea: Jesus wants us to be free.

### READ PROVERBS 22:7

Make a list of things you owe to others.

Write each of them on a piece of paper that will be used to make the chain of your handcuffs.

What other things can be "owed"?

Hint: What do you think you HAVE to do?

Out of your paper list and cardboard (tp?) tubes, make a pair of handcuffs.

Use the handcuffs to remind yourself of what you owe others.

Look up "slave", "servant", & "bondage" in the dictionary.

How do you feel about these things?

### READ JOHN 8:31-36

Which of the following words belong together?

TRUTH-SLAVE-FREE-SIN

Look up "give", "generous", & "free" in the dictionary.

How do you feel about these words?

### READ ROMANS 13:8-10

What does the Bible say freedom is like?

Make another set of handcuffs, using the links to describe the ways God wants us to love each other.

What is the difference between "owing" and "loving"?

Would you rather "owe" or "love"?

When is the best time to choose

whether you will "owe" or "love"?

When was the last time you chose to "owe"?

Why did you choose that way?

### READ GALATIANS 5:1

What has Jesus done for us?

When was the last time you chose to be free?

Use scissors to cut up the "owe" handcuffs you made.

### MEMORY VERSE:

So if the Son sets you free,  
you will be free indeed.

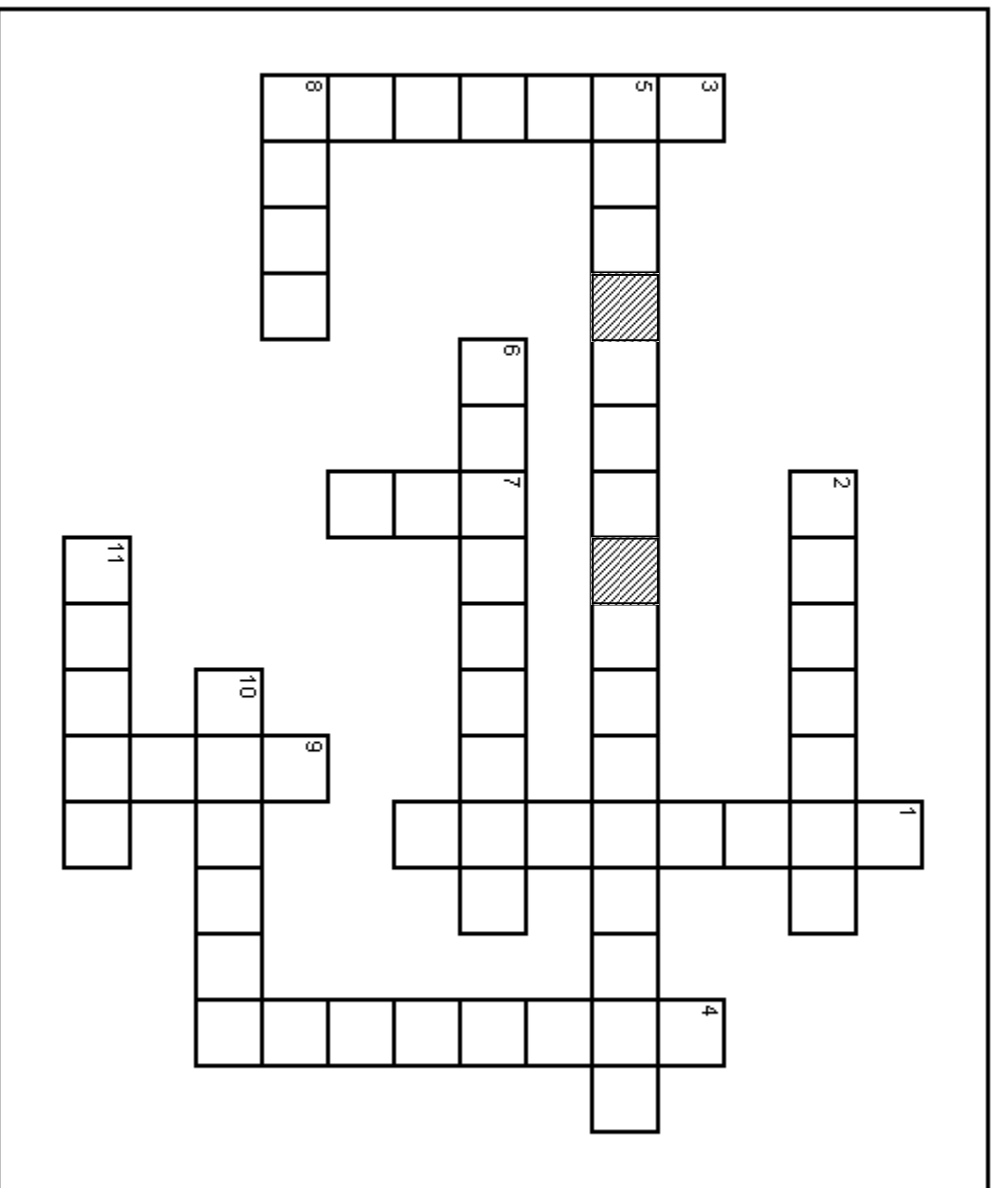
John 8:36 (NIV)

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# Jesus Wants Us To Be Free

All clues are from the NIV version of the Bible.



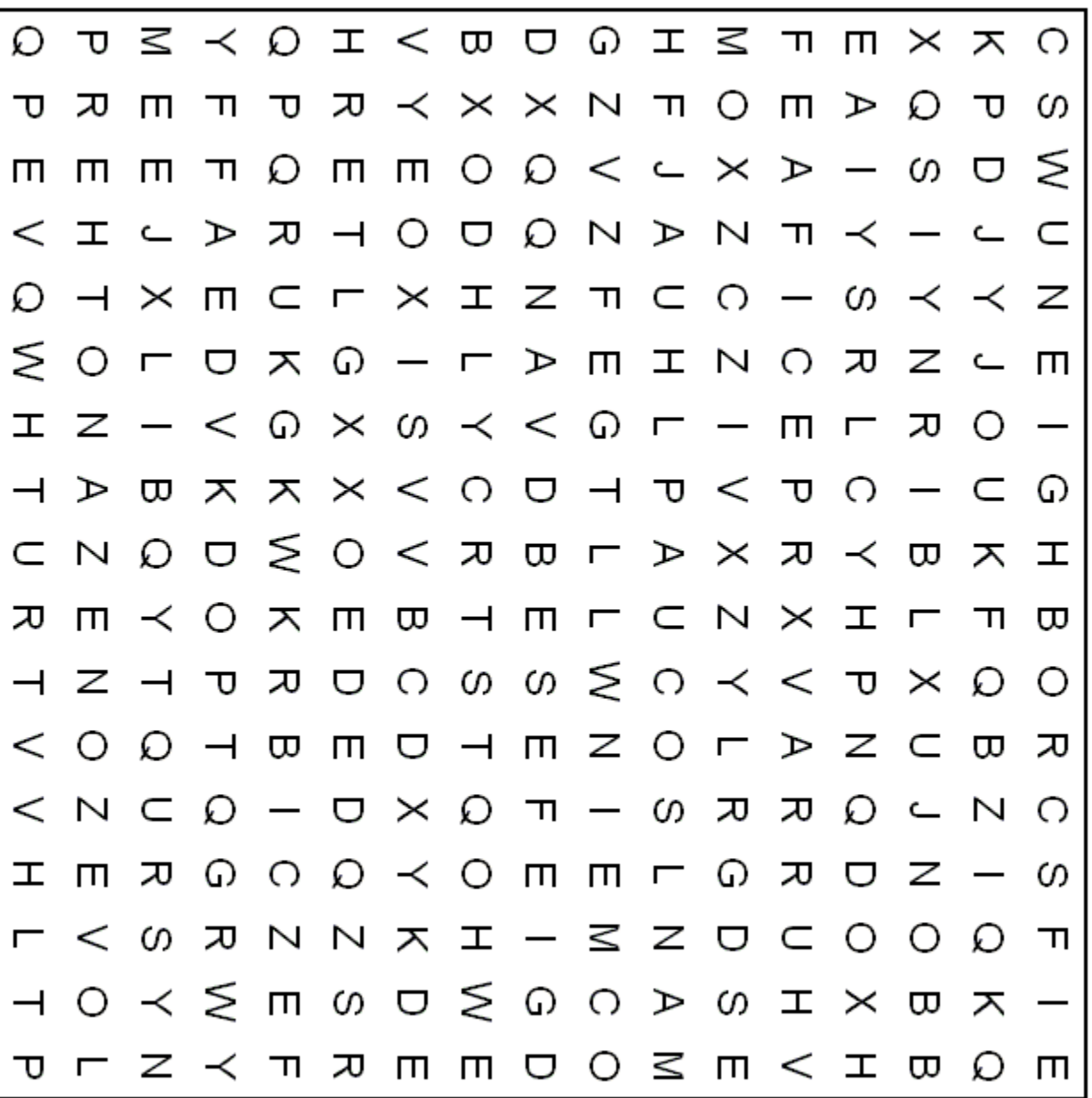
## Across

2. the reason Jesus died  
(Galatians 5:1)
5. the only debt we should have  
(Romans 13:8)
6. they follow Jesus' teaching  
(John 8:31)
8. used to control oxen  
(Galatians 5:1)
10. he ends up the boss  
(Proverbs 22:7)
11. this is what sets you free  
(John 8:32)

## Down

1. he is the servant (Proverbs 22:7)
3. bondage (Galatians 5:1)
4. the person we should love  
(Romans 13:10)
7. this makes you a slave  
(John 8:34)
9. something you own (Romans 13:8)

# Jesus Wants Us To Be Free



love one another      disciples      truth

sin      yoke      debt

slavery      freedom      neighbor

borrower      lender