

# ALL FREEDOM COURSE

(developed by Michel Larribeau MTh)

based on the 15 instructions in Galatians 5 & 6

## NOTES FOR DISCUSSION LEADERS

Aim: 'to learn how to walk in all freedom'

## COURSE PLAN

*sample below for preview*

### SESSION 1

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**in all liberty**

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### SESSION 2

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**in all spirituality**

### SESSION 3

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**in all mercy**

### SESSION 4

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**in all generosity**

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## SESSION 1 - in all liberty

Read Galatians 5 verses 1 to 12

**to start** (note; questions in bold and [suggested answers in italics])

- **what is the only instruction of this passage?**  
[end of verse 1 = 'therefore remain firm and not let yourselves ...the yoke of bondage]
- **what is its context?**  
[see beginning of the v.1 = Paul uses the word freedom]
- to know why Paul speaks of freedom see the first 4 chapters
- Summary of the first 4 chapters of the letter to the Galatians: [if time permits read the 4 chapters]
- \* Chap. 1 and chap.2:1 - 14 = Paul defends his Ministry  
(after introduction and astonishment, importance and origin of his message, approval of the other Apostles, firmness against Pierre)
- \* Chap. 2:15-21, Chap. 3 and 4 = Paul defends his doctrine  
(summary of the 'justification by faith', call to the experience of the Galatians, the example of Abraham - his faith and the promise, place of the Law, appeal to the friendship of the Galatians, attention given to the 2 sons of Abraham)
- who says 'defence' says 'problem' and calls for a solution
- **what is the solution proposed by Paul?**  
[see Gal.5:1; Paul begins chap.5 by saying that one of the goals of the salvation of Jesus is not bondage but **freedom** and to be firm on this]
- so to finish the letter, Paul so wants to instruct Christians to live in all freedom, starting with our passage = Gal.5:1-12

### FREEDOM

- **what is the aspect of the Law that Paul underlines in these verses?**  
[see verses 2, 3, 6 and 11 = 'circumcision' = 'surgery on the foreskin of the male organ']
- **where does this rite come from and why?**  
[Gen.17:1-14 = sign of the alliance between God and Abraham and his descendants and repeated in the Law - Lev.12:3]
- **is that Paul is against circumcision itself?**  
[see Act.16:1-3 (all the more astonishing it is just after Act.15:1-29) and 1 Cor.9:19-23]
- **what is the real problem?**  
[see Gal.1:6-10, 2:16, 3:1-5, 4:8-11 and Act.15:1 and 5 - obedience to the law added to faith in Jesus for salvation]
- **what are the consequences to add circumcision to faith in Christ given by Paul in our passage?**  
[see Gal.5:2, 5:3 (= 'servitude' of the v.1), 5:4, 5:6, 5:7, 5:8]
- **are there similar "additions" today?**  
[maybe not circumcision but something else like 'one or more of the 10 commandments, belonging to a denomination, water baptism, baptism in the Holy Spirit... etc...]
- **can we conclude that the consequences are the same?** [of course!]
- **is the solution also the same?** [Yes, one of the goals of the salvation of Jesus is still, not bondage but **freedom** and we must stand firm on it]

### to sum up: Actions to take

- Remember that the only Gospel is to believe in Jesus Christ, in order to be justified by faith in Christ
- not to want or let anything be added to this Gospel, not even the works of the Law
- not be diverted from this truth by anyone or anything, even an Angel
- always keep firmly in mind that one of the goals of salvation by Jesus Christ is freedom and therefore not let ourselves be enslaved by anything.