

The Joy of Liberty

Luke 4:14-21

One of Jesus' first public proclamations:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to proclaim release to the prisoners...to set free those who are oppressed.”

—Luke 4:18

What does freedom and liberty mean to you?_____.

Quotes from Siemons Nursing Home Newsletter, “*Lakeview:*”

I can live and practice my own way of life...

Freedom to choose work, travel...

Freedom from Government controlled religion...

The Joy of Liberty means:

1. I have a **Choice**.

- **Preferences**—Choices of Taste
- **Moral** choices—from creation, a free moral choice.
- **Volitional** Choices—choices of will.

2. Liberty is a **Gift**.

- Gift of **Life**
- Gift of **new** life.

3. Free from sin---

Choosing to do right, the ultimate act of freedom.

Liberty means: "*to be able to do the things that are good and right...*"

4. Free to Love

The Greatest joy of liberty is choosing to put someone else's rights and needs before my own.

Liberty means: "*Caring for each other.*"

The old Gaither's Chorus, "I am loved."

*I am loved, I am loved, I can risk loving you,
For the one who knows me best loves me most.
I am loved, you are loved, won't you please take my hand?
We are free to love each other, we are loved.*

Conclusion:

Jesus founded the Gospel on releasing the prisoners and setting captives free.

Every day we have to decide, 'What will I do with liberty?'

Memory Verse:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

—Luke 4:18, 19