

2nd Level = Behavior

- ▶ In the church, we tend to focus on two methods:
 - The Prohibitive Method - Now that you are a Christian, you need to **STOP** - and we begin the “don’t list.”
 - The Prescriptive Method - Now that you are a Christian you need to **DO** – and we begin the “to do” list.

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

What you seek **FIRST** orders everything else in your life.

**Freedom is NOT the absence of SOMETHING,
it’s the presence of SOMEONE!!!!**

3rd Level = Capabilities

- ▶ If our behavior is the outward stuff we do – our capabilities are our best behaviors – It is what we are capable of doing in our own strength.
- ▶ Capabilities are like a thermostat set in your heart.
 - When we say things like, “This will never change, I will always be like this,” We are in effect setting a thermostat that prohibits change in our hearts
 - When we try to change at the behavior level we inevitably bump up against our thermostat and seemingly no matter how hard we try we cannot effect long lasting change
- ▶ Our capabilities define for us what we can and cannot change in our own strength.

4th Level = Beliefs

There is a difference between a thought and a belief.

- ▶ A thought is resident in your **mind**
 - Thoughts can generally be easily communicated with words.
 - A thought becomes a belief when we attach a judgment to it.
 - Thoughts are relatively easy to change – it is a matter of debate – win the debate...change the thought
- ▶ A belief is resident in your **heart**
 - Beliefs are stronger.

- Beliefs have been developing since you were born. They are connected to the powerful moments in our lives that shape our experiences.

Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)

For as he thinks in his heart [BELIEVES], so is he.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

- A belief will operate as a contact lens over your heart, and you may or may not know it is even there, but it may affect everything you do!
- ▶ God is the only one who can truly change your beliefs.
 - When God becomes our source of truth, then true change can take place

**Information will change your thought;
Revelation will change what you believe.**

- ▶ What we believe about God and what we believe about ourselves are the 2 crucial categories that effect our lives
- ▶ The question is not what are you worth? But who do you allow to determine your value?

5th Level = Identity

- ▶ When we begin to see who God has created you to be then we can move into the place where the truth can actually set people free

John 8:31–32 ESV

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

- Knowing the truth and it setting you free is NOT about our doctrine. It is about letting God’s word abide (remain) in your heart.
- Our identity is established by the created blueprint that God established for you while you were in your mother’s womb. The enemy has been fighting against that everyday of your life.
- ▶ Only God has the power to change your IDENTITY

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Colossians 1:13 (NLT)

For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

- ▶ Where do I start?
 - ▶ Start by reading and memorizing God’s Word
 - ▶ Attend **FREEDOM WEEKEND**

Who You Are In Christ

- I am God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works – Ephesians 2:10
- I am a new creature in Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:17
- I am a joint-heir with Christ – Romans 8:17
- I am more than a conqueror through Him who loves me – Romans 8:37
- I am an overcomer by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony – Revelation 12:11
- I am a partaker of His divine nature – 2 Peter 1:3-4
- I am an ambassador for Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:20
- I am part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a purchased people – 1 Peter 2:9
- I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus – 2 Corinthians 5:21
- I am the temple of the Holy Spirit; I am not my own – 1 Corinthians 6:19
- I am the head and not the tail: I am above only and not beneath – Deuteronomy 28:13
- I am forgiven of all my sins and washed in the blood – Ephesians 1:7
- I am delivered from the power of darkness and translated into God's kingdom – Colossians 1:13
- I am raised up with Christ and seated in heavenly places – Ephesians 2:6
- I am greatly loved by God – John 3:16

Prayer Focus

1. Thank God because he is a forgiving Father!
2. Rejoice you are part of a culture of acceptance and forgiveness!
3. Ask God to give you a forgiving heart in EVERY situation.
4. Moment of introspection: Spend five minutes allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal any area of unforgiveness toward anyone.
5. Break into groups of three and reveal (without naming names) what the Holy Spirit revealed to you. Pray over each other to be obedient to the Word in the area of forgiveness.
6. Spend ten minutes in the concourse praying for people to experience acceptance when they come onto our property.
7. Pray for our culture of acceptance and forgiveness to overtake the community we influence.