



# SERMON NOTES

# SENT

DELIVERING  
THE GIFT OF HOPE  
AT CHRISTMAS

Week 2 (December 6): "Jesus Sets Us Free"

*Matthew 1:21, Luke 4:18-19*

## I. Freedom from the Power of Sin

- A. Jesus came to deliver us from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.
- B. Jesus came to give us life to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. We do not have to live as a prisoner to sin, because sin is not our \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. Jesus as Liberator

- A. Jesus elevated the dignity of the individual through his \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Jesus elevated the dignity of the individual through his \_\_\_\_\_ with them.
- C. Jesus elevated the dignity of the individual through his \_\_\_\_\_.

## III. Sent to Liberate

- A. Jesus sends \_\_\_\_\_ to offer God's great gift of love and acceptance.
- B. We can't live with an 'I'm better than them' \_\_\_\_\_ toward anyone.
- C. Homework: Look for places in the gospels where Jesus elevated the \_\_\_\_\_ of the individual and reflect on how you can do the same.

***Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message***

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE

## INTRODUCTION

Every December, we sing the song “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus,” which reminds us that ‘he came to set his people free.’ And maybe you have sung that song for decades but you never stopped to ask the question “What does he set us free from?” So, what does he set us free from?

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### Monday: Matthew 1:18-21

The Angel told Joseph that they will have a son and that his name will be Jesus because he saves people from their sins. Do you tend to view the story of Christmas as Jesus providing forgiveness for your sins or as Jesus setting you free from sin? What has shaped your view of the Christmas story?

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### Tuesday: Romans 6:15-23

Paul tells us that followers of Jesus have been set free from the power of sin in their lives. Is it difficult for you to believe that sin doesn't have to be your master? Is it difficult to believe that Jesus has set you free? Why or why not?

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### Wednesday: Luke 4:16-19

At the synagogue, Jesus appropriated the prophecy of Isaiah 61 as an interpretation of his ministry stating that he was sent to preach the gospel or good news to those whose life chances were stifled by various reasons. What stands out to you about the words of Jesus. How can you join Jesus in this mission?

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### Thursday: Romans 5:7-8

How does this passage change the way you view your value as a human being? How does it challenge the way you view others?

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### Friday: John 4:1-26

In the first century, Jews and Samaritans disliked each other. However, Jesus elevates the dignity of a Samaritan woman in this passage. What person or group of people do you power up around, look down on, treat as less than, or maintain a bad attitude toward? What causes you to respond to that person or group the way you do? What is one thing you can do this week to begin to treat that person or group with dignity?

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## MOVING FORWARD

Jesus was sent to set us free and there are two ways he sets us free. First, he sets us free from the power of sin. Because of Jesus, sin is not our master. Second, Jesus came to liberate the oppressed and he did that by elevating the dignity of the individual. Jesus now sends us to offer God's great gift of love and acceptance to others.

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) power, B) fullest, C) master. IIA) teaching B) interactions, IIC) death. IIIA) us, B) attitude, C) dignity.*