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| <p>I see that rehab groups for drugs or prisons use religion in alot of instances to try and rehabilitate people. Do you believe they can end up making Christianity their next addiction and possibly go so hard that they push people away from religion with their intensity?</p> | <p>When people love something, or do something that has profoundly impacted their life - depending on their personality and background - they might be more intense about it then another person and that intensity might rub people the wrong way. The Recovery Village which is a National rehab center for addicts explains the use of religion for recovery this way - " Addiction pushes people to isolate themselves and disconnect from others. Spirituality encourages connections with others to restore a sense of belonging. People can connect with a higher power within themselves, in others, in nature or from a variety of other sources. "</p> |
| <p>What is the best way to wait for an answer?</p> | <p>Author and Pastor Mark Batterson has a quote that we love a lot at Freedom Church: "Work like it depends on you and pray like it depends on God". This is a great way to think about the active waiting that we can do to avoid passive waiting. Passive waiting is when we use the excuse "I don't know what to do so I am not going to do anything". Active waiting is doing the last thing God called you to do. If you are waiting for an answer then until he gives it to you keep doing what he last called you to do.</p> |
| <p>I've got a few people I know that are new believers but sometimes stray when they get upset, for example cursing, or certain shows that they liked to watch but aren't what they call Christian-like, they wanted to know how they can be better christians and a better follower?</p> | <p>We are often tempted as Christians to put behavior modification and certain lists of things in a position of God. We call this legalism. In other words if I cuss today I was not a "good" Christian but if I don't cuss I was a better Christian. Legalism always leads to discouragement because there will always be a new set of rule or a set of rules that you did not even know existed. At Freedom Church we have a saying, "Jesus + NOTHING = Everything" to try and show how we live Free. Jesus never calls us to be perfect. He call us to himself. And we are going to mess up. Grace and mercy will cover us each time we mess up in the process of us maturing everyday. When we do something that we aren't sure exactly lines up with what we think is "christian" a better question could be is this "Christ-like" and allow Holy Spirit to do his thing and convict. Conviction isn't about heaping shame on you for doing something wrong; look at it this way - it's a invitation to something bettter and more in line with what Christ would want for your life. He will teach you to be a "better follower" in different ways each day - pray and read scripture - and know that it's not a microwave process to become a mature believer.</p> |
| <p>How do you forgive someone who has passed away?</p> | <p>Forgiveness requires nothing on the part of the one being forgiven. When someone is living they may not admit wrong, may not ask for forgiveness and in fact may still continue to hurt you, that does not stand in the way of forgivenss. So as we are in the position of forgiving someone who is gone, similiary it is about you letting go of any bitterness and anger and moving towards the peace that God wants to have regeardless of what they may have done or can do. It has been said unforgivenss is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to be hurt. Forgiveness really is an inside job.</p> |

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| <p>I feel like my soil is made of rocks and thorns, where seeds will grow but quickly die off, how do I make good soil so that the seeds will flourish?</p> | <p>Asking this question and being curious about your faith is a great sign that you are growing and connecting with God. It takes time for something to truly take root in our lives. Being planted in one place is key for letting something take root, things can't grow if we are constantly replanting them. So if you feel like teachings are taking root but then die off maybe spend more time before moving on to a new teaching. But also don't be so hard on yourself, we constantly need to be reminded of even the basic stuff.</p> |
| <p>How do I repent? I feel too generic if I just say "I repent of my sins". Doesn't God deserve the details?</p> | <p>The greek word for "repent" is the root of the word that we use in English metamorphosis. Repent simply means to change or shift ones thinking or mind. In doing this we then become a new creation. God is always and continuously giving us new revelation to become more like him and take on the mond of Christ. If your asking specifically about what to say in your prayer, remember God knows all things, including your heart, your motive, your intentions so when our hearts feel genuine sorrow for our sins and a desire to change, it is enough to simply confess to God and believe that he has forgiven you as you walk out repentance.</p> |
| <p>Why do we not do a salvation call every weekend?</p> | <p>Our 51 Sundays a year are made up of various styles of preaching that are meant to form well-rounded spiritual formation of our church members. The preacher prayerfully considers if the content being covered lends itself to present an opportunity for a large portion of the congregation to respond to what God is saying to them through receiving salvation. Our prayer team is always equipped to help someone pray and receive a bible should they make an individual decision to allow Jesus to save them.</p> |
| <p>What does the Freedom Church logo represent?</p> | <p>The original logo is made up of two chain links, one that is black and solid representing our bondage to sin before salvation the other red and broken representing the blood of Jesus that freed us from that bondage. We exist as a church to help people who are far from God, find that freedom in Christ.</p> |

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| <p>Lately, I have thought about unity within Christ church. There are many denominations and there are points of belief that differ from denomination to denomination. An example would be us and Catholics. They believe in baptizing infants where as we look at baptism as a choice an individual makes. The Bible doesn't teach baptizing infants as far as I am aware of. I raised my children in a small town that had a Baptist university. Our next door neighbor taught music at the university. We had 3 children and they had 2. They were close in age. Their children were not allowed to play with my children. They would talk across the fence, but never play together. There is a division in the church of Christ followers and I believe that Jesus never intended that. Has this issue been addressed on a leadership level, if only in the ARC?</p> | <p>It is clear in the Bible that God desires unity in the body of Christ. A study of church history and how all the denominations came to be will also give you insight into why we have different denominations as people interpret the bible and following Jesus in slightly different ways such as infant baptism, gift of the spirit, women in ministry, interpretation of end times, etc. With most of these issues we would call them "non-essential" issues: they are important but not salvation issues as they do not keep someone from being saved by God's grace. There are what we would call deal breaker issues, issues that we are willing to separate over such as Jesus is the only way, God is triune in nature (Trinity), you must be born again, etc, which for Freedom Church would be essential issues. At Freedom and generally speaking in the ARC we try to be united in our essential beliefs and have liberty in our non-essential beliefs.</p> |
| <p>My question is, why don't you meet your members or greet them? Just asking for a friend</p> | <p>Pastor Shawn and Pastor Connie both stand near the front entrance after each experience the majority of Sundays to be able to meet guests and say hello to church members. They also are intentional to walk around during Sunday Social and other events to fulfill the same purpose. If you are asking why they don't attend our "Next Steps/newcomers" gathering, it is because it has been the most well attended while held during church while they are performing their primary Sunday role of preaching. If they aren't scheduled to preach they do come in and meet those who attend.</p> |
| <p>Why don't we have altar calls? I have witnessed so many people experience breakthrough while surrendering to Jesus at the altar, so I've always been curious as to why Freedom doesn't invite people to the altar for those holy moments?</p> | <p>At Freedom, we invite people to respond to what God is saying to them every weekend through our response station which serve as several altars. This allows people to move freely about the worship center and express themselves in various ways instead of just one.</p> |
| <p>Asking for a friend...you are an amazing pastor and it is clear that God has a calling for you. I've heard you preach, and I mean preach, God's word. Sometimes, I get the feeling you are holding back. What is holding you back? God's got you and this church! Preach!</p> | <p>Pastor Shawn here to answer this one...I pray each week, seek God and ask Him to set my tone and my content and rely on Him to bring me to exactly where He would want me to be. I know me pretty good, so I am sure I don't get that right some times - but I can assure you I am not holding back. Just like when I talk to my family there are different tones for different conversations I hope that would be the case with my sermons as well.</p> |

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| <p>I know we support mission in Roatan. Why don't we hear more about it and what is happening there?</p> | <p>At Freedom, we update the church annually at the beginning of the year on everything our Global Mission partners are currently doing to impact their area of the world. This year we are also sending out a quarterly newsletter to celebrate our partners accomplishments, update the sponsors on new opportunities and how we can be praying for them. When they ask us to share something specifically with the church in between those times we will communicate during an offering moment or on social media based on the criteria. We do believe their work is important and we also believe the ministry our dream team members do within the church and in our local community is also equally important and so we share updates accordingly. To see our most recent update and to know how you can be more involved go to www.freedomchurch.sc/globalmissions.</p> |
| <p>Where does the church stand on social drinking?</p> | <p>The bible is very clear that to be drunk on wine or any other alcohol is sinful and we believe that as a church. We also believe that equally the Bible does not teach that consuming alcohol in moderation is a sin. In fact we know that Jesus drank wine and even his first miracle was to make wine from water. However when that drink becomes too many is when it becomes a problem. As a church we would discourage anyone who has ever had issues with this moderation to not drink as it is just not worth the collateral damage that it can bring if you have a past issue with abuse or drunkenness.</p> |
| <p>How does our church feel about sending out prayer cloths that have been anointed and prayed over?</p> | <p>You may be referencing the work done in Acts 11 "God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them." This seems to be a special anointing that fell on these early Christian's but at Freedom Church, we do practice anointing with oil and laying hands on the sick and so in essence we would not be against the idea of sending out prayer cloths but would first ask for an in person meeting to decide if it is the best use of our church's time and resources at this moment in time.</p> |
| <p>Was Mary, Jesus's mother, at his crucifixion. The Bible says Mary Magdolin, Mary the sister of Lazareth and "The other Mary", were at Golgotha. Was the other Mary Jesus's mom? I always wondered that?</p> | <p>John 19:25 tells us the yes, Mary the mother of Jesus was present at the crucifixion. It also tells us that there was another woman named Mary wife of Clopas that was there too. A lot of Mary's were there it appears.</p> |

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| <p>Please explain dinosaurs and cave men - how they fit in with what we know from the Bible.</p> | <p>There are many different theological opinions on the timing of dinosaurs but there are a few things we know. At Freedom Church we interpret Genesis 1's account of a literal 6 day creation (God rested on the 7th) so any aquatic dinosaurs were created on the 5th day and any land dinosaurs were created on the 6th day along with man. If you follow the Biblical narrative further we see a worldwide catastrophic flood in Genesis 7 that wiped out the dinosaurs. Because God commanded Noah to take two of every animal the most practical way to take many of the larger species would have been through taking unhatched eggs or very infantile creatures on to the ark. This also would lend itself to man being able to fight these small dinosaurs (dragons) and bring them to extinction. The book of Job which was actually written before the book of Genesis describes two creatures that sound like dinosaurs. Look at Job 40:15-24 and Job 41:1-34. Answers in Genesis is a great resource for this and a trip to the Ark and Creation museum would be even more fun! For more information check out this video created by Calvin Smith. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVTI1YvtPFI</p> |
| <p>"What does God say about being divorced multiple times?" Scriptures?</p> | <p>There are probably very few questions that are filled with as much emotion, pain and uncertainty as those questions that are asked about divorce. Anyone who has walked through divorce can attest to why God would hate divorce as they have seen first hand the pain that it brings to people who God dearly loves. God hates divorce because he loves us. However we also know that sin has brought pain, betrayal and abuse into our world to such a level where there is definitely biblical reasons for divorce. When a spouse is unfaithful physically or emotionally the Bible seems to give room for the covenant ending. The question here is can someone re-marry. The only specific allowance for remarriage after a divorce is for adultery (Matthew 19:9) and another possibility is desertion—when an unbelieving spouse leaves a believing spouse (1 Corinthians 7:12-15). So this is an issue that takes a lot of thought, prayer and wisdom to walk through. It's also an issue where I believe that God has so much grace for as the whole of his plan on this is to protect us, those he loves, from pain.</p> |
| <p>Who are the two witnesses in Revelations? Are they actual individuals or are they symbolic of someone or something else?</p> | <p>There are multiple theological views of how to interpret the book of Revelation. The two most common center on an interpretation of events that have now already happened (during the fall of the Roman empire) or events that are still to come at Christ's return. With either interpretation the fact is that there is a lot of symbolism in the book and not a lot of concrete details. Specifically as it pertains to the two witnesses mentioned in Revelation there are three primary theories on the identity of the two witnesses in Revelation: (1) Moses and Elijah, (2) Enoch and Elijah (two prophets that never died), and (3) two unknown believers whom God calls to be His witnesses in the end times. In the end, we don't really know. The theme that John's revelation makes however that we can know without a doubt is that he wants to reveal Jesus to us. Rev 1:1 "The revelation of Jesus Christ...". He is not giving a blueprint for the end times but more of a reminder that Jesus is king and he is coming back.</p> |

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| <p>Did Judas make it to heaven? It was God's plan for Jesus to die for our sins and Judas had to betray Jesus in order for that to happen, did he make it to heaven? Jesus knew he was possessed but let him stay that way in order for the crucifixion to happen, why? Thanks so much, I've been pondering this since we discussed it in small group.</p> | <p>Most theologians believe that Judas did not go to Heaven. Judas allowed for Satan to enter him and use him, and Jesus allowed Judas to betray him because of Free Will. If Judas had not betrayed Jesus, Jesus would still have been crucified for our sins- Jesus surrendered as a part of the salvation plan that the Trinity has for us all to receive salvation. Judas participated of his own will. In John 6:64 Jesus knew who did not believe in Him and who would betray Him. This points to Judas never believing in Jesus being the Messiah. There is obvious remorse after Judas betrayed Jesus but Judas did not go to Jesus as his Savior to repent- he went to the Pharisees who then had nothing to do with Judas. In John 17:12 Jesus is praying for his disciples and and references whom we believe to be Judas who he states "I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction..." "I want to be clear that Judas did not go to Hell because he committed suicide. He did not as Romans 10:8 says "Declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in his heart " -It is our confession of Jesus Lordship and Faith in who God is - no further actions on our part bring salvation- so that noone can boast! Ephesians 2:8-9</p> |
| <p>When you die. Do you go to Heaven instantly or do you lie in your grave till the rapture comes? And how is cremation viewed is it wrong or does it effect anything?</p> | <p>This is a question that has multiple viewpoints and as with any non-essential question we try and have the spirit of "we could be wrong" as we answer. However as a church we side with many theologians across the centuries that either through an intermediate state or a direct resurrection that believe that when we die we will instantly be with Jesus. In reference to Cremation we believe as a church that the Bible raises no doctrinal objections to cremation, since cremation of the deceased's body does not affect his or her soul, nor does it prevent God, in his omnipotence, from raising up the deceased body to new life. From a practical standpoint even bodies buried traditionally eventually decompose.</p> |
| <p>In our Healing-Conscious society, considering everything that is trending on social media on psychology-based trauma-informed self healing, how does a Christ Follower differentiate between practicing boundaries and being a Generous Giver? When is enough enough? How does one do what it takes to heal AND be Christ-like?</p> | <p>The same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you Romans 8:11 Holy Spirit will give you Wisdom James 1:5 and every Fruit of the Spirit including patience and self-control Galatians 5:22-23. In addition when seeking healing after much time in prayer and bible study we recommend seeking human wisdom in the form of biblical wise counsel. There are many wonderful resources on Boundaries that are from a biblical point of view. Start with Dr Henry Cloud. We believe you will know when to be generous when you are close to God in prayer, and seeking help from wise Christians. We refer to Biblical professional counselors and we have pastoral staff who will pray with you and encourage you.</p> |

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| <p>When we get to Heaven can we see what goes on down on Earth?</p> | <p>The closest answer the Bible gives us to this question is Hebrews 12:1 which tells us about a cloud of witnesses that are cheering us on as we are able to fight against the trials of this life. There is some indication here that we might be able to see what is happening on earth at times from Heaven. This also gives some indication that we will be instantly with God in Heaven. Some theologians believe that at the transfiguration Jesus, Moses and Elijah were all together with the latter being in heaven at the time.</p> |
| <p>Why couldn't God just restore Eden after the fall vs. this ongoing battle with Satan that attacks us daily?</p> | <p>The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 Time is not the same to the Lord as it is to us. God gave us the gift of free will- the ability to be able to choose to be in relationship with Him or to serve ourselves. We would be like robots forced to love Him with no choice of our own if he had removed all side effects of the Fall. We must choose to join the Lord in the mission of loving and serving all people in our lives to show them how wonderful God is and draw them to Him.</p> |
| <p>What does the bible say about animal/pets after they pass? Do dogs go to heaven?</p> | <p>The Bible is clear to the soul of man being an image bearing created being of God and that is not something we see in animals. In other words humans are more valuable in their essence than animals. However in Revelation we do see that Jesus returns on a white horse and theologians believe that heaven will be here on a new and perfected earth where we will enjoy many of the things that gave us joy, which could include animals of some form.</p> |
| <p>How to explain bad things in the world/why bad things happen to good people, even the most faithful?</p> | <p>One of the most difficult theological truths to come to full understanding of is that there are no righteous people, no not even one. This means that bad things do not happen to good people (because we all are bad) but with Jesus good and amazing things happen to bad people. So sin has effected all of us and has made the world an amazingly hard place - this is why we long for Jesus to change people everyday.</p> |

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| <p>How do I know if I've committed blasphemy?</p> | <p>I believe your question is in reference to this verse- Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. 32 And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. Matthew 12:31-32 ESV Theologians believe that this means a person whose has a hardened heart and resistance to the truth that leads a person away from humility, repentance, and faith. If you are seeking God, repenting, and asking questions then it is clear that you are not committing Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Pray without ceasing and receive God's love and grace for you.</p> |
| <p>Instead of building up huge savings accounts and only ministering to the people within their four walls why can't the church (all denominations) impact the communities they reside in? Every store is asking people to round up for one charity or another but what impact on community problems has the church really had to make it even relevant.</p> | <p>We cannot answer for every church but we can for Freedom and the work that we are doing in our community and around the world is amazing. Each and every year we are able to give hundreds of thousands of dollars directly to our community as well as serving them in everything we do. Although it would be financially irresponsible not to have a savings we keep our savings to a minimum and serve the community and world the best we can. If the whole church would live God's way financially (tithe) we could do substantially more and that is the desire of our heart.</p> |
| <p>How can I trust again after being hurt?</p> | <p>We are so sorry for your pain and hurt. We have all experienced this pain because of sin and selfishness here on the Earth. Trusting again and forgiveness are different. Forgiveness you fight to do daily - its a surrender to the Lord and it releases yourself from bitterness. Trust on the other hand is earned over time. Actions show who a person is and if they are growing in their faith. For more specific encouragement we offer pastoral encouragement at the church.</p> |
| <p>Why do really bad things happen when it is all Gods plan? Why does allow this to happen?</p> | <p>God's plan was perfection. God's plan did not include sin. However, we chose sin (each and everyone of us) and because of that God has been doing everything he can to make a way for us to be able to love him ever sense. However, true love must be a choice and so many people still choose to walk away from God and make life choices that don't include God which brings much pain and sadness into the lives of us all.</p> |

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| <p>How do you find your value during a time of singleness?</p> | <p>We acknowledge that singleness can be a very difficult season for people for various reasons but as with any season we can always find our value in our relationship with God. In fact the way that singles would find value is indeed the same way you find your value in marriage. Many people get married believing it will satisfy this need in them for value and significance but are disappointed when it doesn't happen. Yes, they are married but the emptiness remains. The reason is that a spouse nor any other person can give you "your value." The only person who can give you your value is God alone. and really good marriages are made up of two people who love each other, yes, help each other, support each other, yes, but who ultimately find their value in God alone. When we don't know how to find our value in God alone, we will start looking for it in others which leads to unhealthy relationships because no matter how great that man or woman is, they are not the God who created you, saved you, and knows you through and through.</p> |
| <p>What makes us be defiant?</p> | <p>Sin. Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil because they wanted to be like God. And because they did that act, there is a constant battle between our sin nature and our new nature while here on this earth and in this world - a constant fight within us to do the right thing when given two choices. And this is where defiance comes in, even after we are a new creation. Our enemy, satan, and his demons continue to lie to us. That we can be like God. And just like Paul said - I do what I don't want to do. Romans 7:19-25</p> |
| <p>What books in the Bible do I turn to, to help in my time of singleness?</p> | <p>Anything Paul wrote as he was single is helpful in remembering that you are not any less of a person, or have any less value because you are not married or in a relationship. Honestly all of the bible is helpful. The only person who can give you your value is God alone and the whole Bible will reinforce that. It's helpful to remember that our savior was a single man.</p> |
| <p>How to know when you are in a waiting season and what is required of you to move out of it?</p> | <p>When we pray God gives us an answer of Yes, No, or wait. We hear God's voice through the consistent study of the Bible, the wisdom of wise Christ followers, and the Holy Spirit making it obvious to us. Many times we wait when God has said to go out of fear. If God has asked you to serve or make a move in your life and you feel fear consider praying with a group of believers (a Free Group) or getting wise counsel from a believer that you see has already walked the path you are considering. We also offer Pastoral Encouragement at Freedom Church to pray with believers and help them in any way we can.</p> |

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| <p>I'm new to the church. I have been attending women Bible study since October 2023. My question is... Why isn't the church open during the week for personal time in prayer with God. Sometimes on days that work is overwhelming or just life in general, I enjoy being able to have access to the church and just sit in front of the cross to pray or just ask for guidance. I know that I can do this anywhere but sometimes the comfort of sitting in church is very helpful and lays out the foundation of being part of the church community.</p> | <p>We love that you want to spend time praying and also that you acknowledge that it doesn't have to be at the church. But to answer the practicality of your question about praying at the church here are some things to know. First, there are times that the church building is already open and you could come and find a quiet place. We have activities most days of the week where someone is on site for Free groups that meet, encouragements that happen, staff that work, Youth group on Wednesdays well as Freedom Day School that happening four days a week. So depending on the time there is definitely the possibility of coming in to pray! The reason it's not open 24/7 is one safety concerns for our children, staff and attenders (i.e there are no adults allowed in the building on Wednesday night that are not background checked nor during the day adults are not allowed un-announced when our Day School). There also is a lot of equipment in the church that we need to be good stewards of and yes, unfortunately people have stolen equipment from the church in the past.</p> |
| <p>Where do you start when trying to help lead your family? Do you start with prayer? Do you start with reading the Bible together? Doing it all at once is making it feel forced when I want my young children to find joy in it. So where do I start? #AskingForAFriend</p> | <p>If you want to lead your family, you first have to lead yourself. Cover that want in prayer and ask God for guidance. Invite Holy Spirit in to help you find the right words and right steps when it comes to your family. If you find Joy in the practice of spiritual disciplines, that Joy can be and will be something that will be caught. Practically speaking - For wanting to lead kids, find a family devotional or kids devotional (ask them which one looks cool) and allow them to have ownership during your family time. There are so many good resources out there!</p> |
| <p>Why is it that nothing I do seems to have no purpose or I feel hopeless and hard to love</p> | <p>We are so sorry you are experiencing hopelessness! We all experience times like you are describing. First, You are loved by God! Psalm 57:2 says, "I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me." Start by crying out to the Lord, and studying His Word - specifically verses on your identity in Christ. We also have found that being consistent in church attendance, joining a Serve team, and getting in a Free Group is very encouraging to our souls. Serving in the community of believers will help you to find your purpose, find friends, and grow in your faith. We also offer Pastoral Encouragement to help with your specific needs.</p> |

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| <p>How do I get in touch with my emotions?</p> | <p>The Bible teaches us that we are created in the Image of God and we see all through out scripture that God is a God of emotion. In fact many of the fruits of the spirit that Paul lists in Galatians would be derived from some root of an emotional response. As we grow closer to God we become more and more comfortable with feeling those emotions but we all start in different places. Some of us grew up in families that taught us that to show emotions was weakness and so at an early age we learned to supress them. Spending time with God, learning to be real, vulnerable and emotional with Him first is a great next step as well as a biblical counselor can help you dig in to your emotions and learn to open yourself up to feel and to be comfortable with them. Ask yourself "what am I feeling right now?" and work through a list of emotions and give yourself space to explore those emotions with God. Pray for Holy Spirit to help you.</p> |
| <p>I know that I am not worthy of Gods mercy and love, so how could I possibly come to him and ask him of my wants/needs? (Based off last weeks "ask, seek, knock")</p> | <p>Even though none of us are worthy of God's Mercy and Love, Jesus came and died on the cross to cover our sin and to redeem us. We can be confident in the saving grace of Jesus. "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need". (Hebrews 4:16) Now that Jesus covers our sin, we can receive and rest in God's Mercy and Love because he only sees the righteousness of God. That is why we can confidently go to him with our wants and our needs. Scripture says that he is our Father wanting to give good gifts to those who ask him - Matthew 7:11.</p> |
| <p>Are there any situations where forgiving someone is difficult, if not impossible?</p> | <p>Forgiveness is a constant repetitive work of surrendering to God the desire to hold on to the offense. Satan loves to keep God's people in the bitterness of unforgiveness, and we as believers in Jesus and His sacrifice must consistently fight against the temptation to take offense and stay offended. When we live in unforgiveness we are not offering others the forgiveness that God gave us through the sacrifice of his only son, Jesus. While the work to forgive is indeed difficult it is not impossible through the beautiful power and love of Holy Spirit within us. When we pray consistently to have forgiving hearts full of love for people Holy Spirit will help us.</p> |