**Citizens of Heaven—*on Earth***

**LIBERTY**

**First Christian Church—October 4, 2020**

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**Trapped**

Most of the time we trap and enslave ourselves by believing the lies we’ve been told about ourselves and the world around us. But God is in the Freedom Business! He is the Great Emancipator! He sets us free by telling us the Truth—the truth about ourselves and our world!

 **GOD’s Story–** **LIBERTY, The Book of Philemon**

1. Christianity was birthed in and derived meaning from a slave culture.
* Ephesians 6:5-9
* John 8:31-34
* What has Christ set you free *from?* TEXT FCCMEDIA587 to 22333
1. It was possible to live out one’s faith as a slave or a master.
* 1 Corinthians 7:21-23
* Colossians 3:22—4:1 (similar to Eph. 6:5-9)
1. Slavery is not God’s desire for us, whether physical or spiritual.
* Luke 4:18-19
* 1 Corinthians 7:23
* 1 Timothy 1:10 (slave traders listed with other sins)
* Good News: God will even liberate creation as he has liberated us. Romans 8:21

1. The Great Christian Paradox: Being Christ’s Slave sets us free!
* 1 Corinthians 7:22
* Romans 6:6-7, 14, 17-18, 20-23
* Galatians 5:1, 13

**“**You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.” (Romans 6:18)

**Big Idea:** God sets us free *from* our sin and separation from him.

 God sets us free *for* a life of doing right and friendship with him.

**Right On!**  (OT Scripture Readings: Psalm 116:1-9, 16; Isaiah 61:1-3)