

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (NIV)

Hold On

Do you want to be my disciple? Will you hold on to my teaching? Will you make my word the priority of your life? Would you like to know the truth? Will you allow the truth of my word to set you free? You have asked me a lot of questions. I will start by saying that I want to be your disciple. I want to be one of your followers. I know that as your disciple and follower I must hold on to your teachings. I'm sure that, "by holding" to your teaching you are not referring to a light grasp. I will hold on to your word for dear life. Your word is and will be the priority of my life. I will meditate on your word day and night. I will let your word dwell in me richly. I will seek your word more than silver or gold. I will let your word guard and guide my life. **That will be very good.**

Let's talk about how my word will set you free. I'd like that. **My word has the power to change your heart. My word has the power to transform your mind. Would you like a new heart? Would you like a new mind?** Yes, I would like a new heart and a new mind. **You are right about the importance of the firmness of your grip in taking hold of my word. Occasional hearing of my word will not change your heart or transform your mind. You must feast on my word. You must take my word into your heart and mind. The world and all that is in it is working full time to conform your heart and mind according to its patterns, practices and values. You must allow my word to remain in you continually. You must hunger and thirst for my word. You must allow my word to have a far greater influence over your life than anything else that is in the world. Will you meet with me in my word?** Yes, It will be my delight to meet with you in your word. **How often will you meet with me in my word?** There is not a day that will go by that I do not need to hear from you. There is not a day that will go by that I will not be excited to hear all that you have to say to me. I will meet with you in your word every day. I will take hold of your word every day. I will let your word take hold of me every day. **Then you will know the truth. Then you will be set free by my word as you come to know me and hold on to my teachings.**

Lord, it was you who drew me to yourself. You rescued me from the dark and dreary life I was living. You made it possible for me to follow you as my Savior and Lord. You have helped me to hold on to your teachings. You set me free to follow and serve you. Amen

The Truth Will Set You Free

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

The Mind – John 8:31-32

In Context: *Read John 8*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

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What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How is your life now different since you have come to know and follow Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?

How has believing in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord changed your thoughts, values and priorities?

What demonstrates for all to see that you really are following Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord?

How are you making it your daily priority to hear and obey the teachings of Jesus Christ?

How are you making very sure that you are holding to the teachings of Jesus Christ?

How has knowing Jesus Christ and holding on to His teachings set you free to live your life for Him?

What is one teaching from Jesus Christ that has been a powerful helping in setting you free?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Come to know Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord as you hold on to His teachings so He can set you free.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that coming to know Jesus Christ and His teachings will set you free as you follow and obey Him.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you are coming to know Jesus Christ and follow His teachings.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you be set free by Jesus Christ as you believe in Him and hold on to His teachings.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will hold on to your teachings as I follow you as my Savior and Lord.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I hold on to your teachings today as I follow you as my Savior and Lord?
