

Power Over Sin

(Lift: Carried by the Wind of the Spirit — Part VI)

5/31/2009

Read and refer to Romans 8:1-16 as the basis for answering the questions below.

1. In John 8:34, Jesus says, "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin." Pastor Steve talked about us having a condition of slavery. What are characteristics of slaves? What did Pastor Steve say we are slaves to (ie. bitterness, lust, etc.)? Can you think of others? To what may you be enslaved?
2. What are conditions in the family, church, society that contribute to both individual and corporate slavery?
3. Pastor Steve talked about songs that the African American slaves sang. These, he said, helped to give them control over their own destiny and cover those who were weak. What "songs" (actions) do we engage in individually and within the Church that can distract, cover, or give us a false sense of control over our own slavery?
4. Is it really possible to be free? How? Is there a death that needs to take place in order for freedom to be achieved?
5. What were the three laws that Pastor Steve talked about?
6. The Law of Sin makes God's Law look like slavery. It distorts and ruins freedom. Can you think of any examples?
7. Sometimes we try to free ourselves from our enslaving sins or our enslaved condition by our own strength. Pastor Steve referred to these as "flesh fixes." What are some of the "fixes" that the church has used in the past? What "fixes" do you think we use today, both as individuals and in the church?
8. God's intention is to give us freedom through the Spirit now. What is the Spirit's role in helping us to secure our freedom?
9. What is scary about leaving "the cage?" What is preventing you from leaving "the cage" (ie. pain, fear, unbelief, etc.)?