

**Daily Bible Readings:**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.  
Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	John 8:31-36	The truth will set you free
Monday	Isaiah 61:1-3	Freedom for the captives
Tuesday	Romans 8:1-17	Free from sin and death
Wednesday	Galatians 5:13-25	Freedom in Christ
Thursday	1 Peter 2:9-17	Use your freedom to serve others
Friday	Revelation 1:4-8	Freed from our sins
Saturday	Psalms 116	Freed from my chains
Sunday	Luke 10:25-37	The good Samaritan

**Scripture Verse for the Week:**

“So if the Son of Man sets you free, you will really be free.”

– John 8:36 (NIRV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

**Prayer for this Week:**

Lord Jesus, thank you for setting me free. Help me to hold onto you. Amen. (John 8:31-32)

**For Throughout the Day:**

Lord God, help me to use the freedom I have been given to serve others with love. Amen. (Galatians 5:13)

**A Blessing to Share:**

*May God give you a joyful heart, a peaceful mind and a serving spirit. Amen.*

**Mealtime Refrain:**

In Christ, God has set us free:

**Let us serve each other with love.** (Galatians 5:13)

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Everyone raises their plates for a moment of silence, ending with:  
*Thanks be to God.*

SCRIPTURE

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SCRIPTURE

**Faith Talk:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- If you could be free of one thing in your life, what would you choose?
- How does Jesus set people free? What are we freed from?
- How does God want us to use the freedom Jesus gives us?

**Devotional Practices:**

In your home devotional times this week, pray for people whose freedom is limited because of personal or social circumstances.

Here are some suggestions:

- Pray for people who live in countries where personal freedoms are restricted.
- Pray for people who have been wrongly imprisoned.
- Pray for people who lack freedom because of poverty.
- Pray for people trapped in addictions to drugs or alcohol.
- Pray for people who are unable to freely practice their Christian faith.

As a visual symbol of your prayers, tie white ribbons to a tree or a post outside your home.

**Service:**

1 Peter 2:16-17 says: *'Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. Live as servants of God. Show respect for all people: Love the brothers and sisters of God's family, respect God, honor the king.'* In response to these words, plan an Independence Day of act of loving service e.g. visit someone in hospital or in a seniors home; clean up litter in your neighborhood; wash a neighbor's car or mow their lawn.

**Rituals and Traditions:**

Independence Day is a day of flag-flying! The US flag is a powerful symbol of freedom for Americans. It draws people together and reminds them of the origins, hopes and dreams. As a household, take some time this week to design your own "flag of the home". Incorporate symbols and/or words that reflect your household values, hopes and dreams. If possible, gather cloth and sewing materials and work together on making an actual flag to display outside your home.

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