

FAITH AND FREEDOM
“Faiths’ part in keeping our Freedom/Joy in our Christian Life”
Galatians
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Galatians. 5:1 *"Don't let anybody take away your freedom. Stand fast in it."*
He tells us about some traps to avoid-- three traps. These are the things that will rob you of happiness and joy, and your freedom--- in your Christian life.

1. The Trap of _____. -----**3:1-3.**
The definition : trying to maintain a perfect performance in order to stay saved.
"You foolish Galatians..." "Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes, Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I'd like to learn one thing. Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort."

God doesn't want you to relate to Him out of fear or guilt but out of love.
3;11, *"Clearly no one is justified before God by the law because the righteous will live by faith."*

2. The Trap of _____. ----- **4:8**
The Definition: when you measure your maturity by how many rules you keep. You measure your spiritual growth; it is the focus on rules instead of relationship.
v. 8 *"Formerly, when you didn't know God you were slaves to those who were by nature not gods. But now that you know God, how is it you're turning back to those weak and miserable principles?" "Do you wish to be enslaved by them again? You're observing special days and months and seasons of the year."*

Living Bible says *"You're trying to find favor with God by what you do or don't do on certain days or months or seasons of the year."*

5:1 *"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm then and do not allow yourselves to be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."*

What is the result of this trap-----4:15 *"What has happened to all your joy?"*

John 8:32 *"You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. If the Son shall set you free you shall be free indeed."*

2 Corinthians 3:17 *"Where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom."*

3. The trap of _____. **5:7**
The definition: being controlled by the expectations of other people, taking your eyes off the Lord and looking at what everybody else is doing.
5:7 *"You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?"*

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"You were running such a good race, who cut in on you? Everything was going well, but you got tripped up. Somebody came in and caused you to stumble. You were making such progress in your Christian life and something happened. This kind of persuasion doesn't come from the one who calls you. A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough."

Living Bible: *"You were getting along so well. Who interfered with you to hold you back from following the truth? It certainly isn't God who's done it for He's the one who's called you to freedom in Christ. It only takes one person among you to infect all the others."*

There's only two ways to live the Christian life -- by _____ or by _____.
"If the Son, therefore, has set you free, you shall be free indeed."

So how do I get it back!!!

1. Ask God to _____.
2. You need to thank God for His _____.
3. Refocus on your _____ to the Lord, instead of all the rules and regulations.
4. Determine to live by _____.

Love is always a response. ----- *"We love because He first loved us."*

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." Paul says "Don't let anybody take it away from you."