

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2024! Leading to Worship Sunday, October 27, 2024

Reading: John 8:31-36

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website and St. John's You Tube channel. This week, we ask ourselves what it means to be free – both from sin, and in God's Grace. Click here: <https://youtu.be/K3idmF6J3yk>
Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- In John 8, Jesus speaks to the "Jews who had believed in him." (John 8:31) Despite the past (perfect) tense, Jesus' words can be seen as encouraging: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." (John 8:31-32)
- The listeners do not take the message well. Instead, they respond, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying 'You will be made free?'" (John 8:33)
- Jesus explains, we are all slaves to sin. "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Two Questions

- Why do you think John makes a point of noting that Jesus was talking to those who "had believed in him?" Had Jesus given up on them? What was Jesus asking them to do? Why do you think they didn't hear his message?
- What does it mean to be a slave to sin? Is Jesus talking about the fact that we will always sin? Is Jesus talking about sin's "grip," as an obstacle to salvation? Is Jesus talking about being freed from the notion that we would "earn" our way out of our sinful nature with "sufficient" piety and obedience? All of the above? Something else?

Action Step

- Celebrate your freedom! Use your freedom to express your joy and love – not for yourself, but for God!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!