

BENTONVILLE BEATITUDES

- 1. Freedom**
- 2. Success**
- 3. Security**
- 4. Image**
- 5. Belonging**
- 6. Family**



NEW HEIGHTS
BENTONVILLE
NO
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THE BENTONVILLE

BEATTITUDES

**What are Bentonville's
cultural values?**

BENTONVILLE BEATITUDES

1. Freedom
2. Success
3. Security
4. Image
5. Belonging
6. Family

Expose Cultural Idols

BENTONVILLE BEATITUDES

- 1. Freedom**
- 2. Success**
- 3. Security**
- 4. Image**
- 5. Belonging**
- 6. Family**

Expose Cultural Idols

Redeem Cultural Values

**What comes to mind
when you think about
FREEDOM?**











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Anna Escobedo Cabral
Treasurer of the United States.

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**True freedom is only found
when we are bound to Jesus.**

¹ For **freedom** Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to **freedom**, brothers. Only do not use your **freedom** as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Galatians 5:1, 13–15 ESV

THE BENTONVILLE
BEATITUDES

FREEDOM

I. The Nature of Freedom

I. The Nature of Freedom

a. Freedom is a gift from God

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely **eat of every tree** of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Genesis 3:15–17 ESV

THE BENTONVILLE
BEATITUDES



Buncha CRUNCH
GOOBERS

RAISINETTS

Milk Duds

Care Bears Gummy Bears

HOT TAMALES

M&M'S

M&M'S

Chewy SWEETS

WHOPPERS

Mike Ike Tangy Taster

DOTS

Minute Maid

Harris Theatres

POWERADE

DETTOL

DASANI

POWERADE

Twizzlers

Skittles SOUR

SOUR PUNCH STRAWS

WHOPPERS

SOUPS

SWEETS

ORANGE

“If a thing is free to be good it is also free to be bad. And free will is what has made evil possible. Why, then, did God give them free will? Because free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having. A world of automata--of creatures that worked like machines--would hardly be worth creating. The happiness which God designs for His higher creatures is the happiness of being freely, voluntarily united to Him and to each other in an ecstasy of love and delight compared with which the most rapturous love between a man and a woman on this earth is mere milk and water. And for that they must be free.”

C.S. Lewis

I. The Nature of Freedom

a. Freedom is a gift from God

b. Freedom is being bound to the right thing

Freedom in Constraints

1. We are all bound to something

²⁵ In those days there was no king in Israel. **Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.**

Judges 21:25 ESV

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BEATITUDES

¹² There is a way that seems right to a man,
but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 14:12 ESV

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¹⁹ They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For **whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.**

2 Peter 2:19 ESV

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Freedom in Constraints

1. We are all bound to something
2. Being Bound to Jesus frees us

⁴⁵ and I shall walk in a **wide place**,
for I have sought your precepts.

Psalm 119:45 ESV

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BEATITUDES

²² But now that you have been **set free** from sin and have become **slaves of God**, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

Romans 6:22 ESV

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“Modern people like to see freedom as the complete absence of any constraints. But think of a fish. Because a fish absorbs oxygen from water, not air, it is free only if it is restricted to water. If a fish is ‘freed’ from the river and put on the grass to explore, its freedom to move and soon even to live is destroyed. The fish is not more free, but less free, if it cannot honor the reality of its nature. The same is true with airplanes and birds. If they violate the laws of aerodynamics, they will crash into the ground. But if they follow them, they will ascend and soar. The same is true in many areas of life: Freedom is not so much the absence of restrictions as finding the right ones, those that fit with the realities of our own nature and those of the world.”

Timothy Keller

FREEDOM

- I. The Nature of Freedom**
- II. The Result of Freedom**

II. The Result of Freedom

a. Freedom brings peace

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1 ESV

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BEATITUDES

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and **my burden is light.**”

Matthew 11:28–30ESV

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BEATITUDES

No lasting peace...

1. Climbing corporate ladder

No lasting peace...

1. Climbing corporate ladder
2. Money

No lasting peace...

1. Climbing corporate ladder
2. Money



“

ENJOY YOUR FAMILY. I LOST MY WHOLE FAMILY, I'M IN A 100,000 SQUARE FOOT HOUSE BY MYSELF.



SHAQ ON HIS RETIREMENT ADVICE FOR JASON KELCE

No lasting peace...

1. Climbing corporate ladder
2. Money
3. Social Status

No lasting peace...

1. Climbing corporate ladder
2. Money
3. Social Status
4. Physical Appearance

“We must of necessity be servant to someone, either to God or to sin. The sinner prides himself on his independence, completely overlooking the fact that he is the weak slave of the sins that rule his members. The man who surrenders to Christ exchanges a cruel slave driver for a kind and gentle Master whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light.”

A.W. Tozer

II. The Result of Freedom

a. Freedom brings peace

b. Freedom to serve

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love **serve one another.**

Galatians 5:13 ESV

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¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as **servants of God.**

1 Peter 2:16 esv

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BEATITUDES

Freedom to Serve

- 1. Financial Freedom:** *Give to Meet Needs*
- 2. Freedom of Time:** *Volunteer, Serve, Lead*
- 3. Relational Freedom:** *Build Relationships*
- 4. Freedom of Talent:** *Use your skills*

FREEDOM

- I. The Nature of Freedom**
- II. The Result of Freedom**
- III. The True Meaning of Freedom**

**True freedom is only found
when we are bound to Jesus.**

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever.³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed

John 8:31–36 ESV

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²² But now that you have been **set free** from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

Romans 6:22 ESV

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Application Questions:

- Where are you seeking freedom apart from Christ?
- Where do you need God's freedom that leads to real peace?
- How can you use your freedom to serve others?
- Are you trusting in Christ to truly set you free?