

SET FREE TO THRIVE

By Ben Bennett

PURPOSE

This is the first message of this six-part series.¹ This message introduces the series and shares the big idea that Jesus wants to bring healing and freedom to our lives and set us free to thrive.

I. Introduction

- A. Share your journey through something you struggled with for a long time that God set you free from (anger, fear, control, addiction) but don't get into the specifics of how just yet.

II. Point 1: Jesus cares about your hurts and struggles.

- A. "He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds." Psalm 147:3 NLT
- B. He is a personal God. He cares. He is not distant. He sees your pain. He sees the sin struggles you have tried so badly to stop. He is in the business of healing.
(Expand upon the above points)

III. Point 2: Jesus has the power to heal you and set you free.

- A. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free..." Luke 4:18 NLT
- B. Jesus' ministry was about healing the sick and proclaiming salvation. He cared for the marginalized. He walked among us. He didn't come to condemn but to set free.
(Expand upon the above points)

¹ To gain access to parts 2 through 6 of this sermon series, visit The Resolution Video Series at <https://resolutionmovement.org/the-resolution-video-series/>.

IV. Point 3: Jesus came for those who need forgiveness and healing.

- A. "But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" 31 Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:30-32 NIV
- B. He is not shaking his finger when you mess up. He came for those who were sick and needed healing. He came for the broken. He came to make a way to know God personally by turning from our sins, being forgiven, and trusting in His life, death, and resurrection. Trusting in him and following his ways leads to a thriving (flourishing) life. His commandments are for our flourishing.
- C. Share how your life changed when you responded to the gospel and began following Jesus.
(Expand upon the above points)

V. Call To Action

- A. For those who haven't, invite them to respond to the gospel - to turn from their sin and enter into a relationship with God through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
- B. Invite people to think about their lives. What are they struggling with that they want freedom from? How are they hurting, lonely, or experiencing shame? Encourage them that Jesus wants to bring healing, freedom, and thriving. Encourage them to talk to a safe person about this.
(Expand upon the above points)