**Live Different; Live Free**

**Freedom in Community**

* **We are Better Together when we are a “one another” to each other.**

Matthew 22:39b “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Q- How do we do that?

**James 4:1-3**

 **Tutus 3:10-11** “As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.”

**Proverbs 10:12** “Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.”

* **When we all understand and live out the “One another” (or community commands) in Scripture then we’ll experience freedom in community.**

**Luke 15:25-32**

To experience freedom in community we must be:

* **If any of these 4 things are missing then you aren’t living free in community.**
1. **In God’s Kingdom**

**John 1:12** “But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,”

**John 15:15** “No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.”

1. **At God’s work**

**Luke 9:62**

**Luke 4:18** “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

**Matthew 28:19-20** “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

1. **With God’s people**

**Matthew 5:9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

**Hebrews 12:15** “See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;”

1. **Celebrating God’s work**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-19** “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit.”

**\*\*The older brother never saw a need to celebrate**

* **If any of these 4 things are missing then you aren’t living free in community.**

Questions to consider:

Am I in God’s Kingdom?

How am I like the older brother?

What is God doing that’s worthy of praise?