

# Rule of Life: Freedom - Pastor Joel Schmidgall

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June 18, 2022



Rule of Freedom

June 19, 2022

Pastor Joel Schmidgall

Sermon

Juneteenth - It wasn't until the word was declared, received, and began to be lived out, that freedom began to take roots in our country.

James 1:25 *"But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do."*

Last week we talked about JOY...God in the midst of our adversity gives freedom to joy in our lives!

James 1:19-21 *"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil*

*that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you."*

Rule of Life: The Word of God unlocks gifting

James 1:19 "Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear." (Message version)

*"The first service that one owes to others in the fellowship consists of listening to them."*

*—Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Rule of Life: Good listeners make good people.

We tend to jump to illusions.

Rule of Life: Seek to understand.

An active listeners first comments are clarifying questions instead of emphatic statements.

Rule of Life: Let anger straggle along in the rear.

"In your anger, do not sin." (Eph 4:26) Anger and sin are never far apart.

Footholds turn into strong holds. You give the enemy an inch, he'll take a mile.

When we live at the whims of our emotions, we become controlled by our emotions.

Freedom comes through God's Word planted in us.

James 1:22-25

*Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is*

*like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*

Rule of Life: You can't audit faith!

Faith only becomes powerful when it's lived out on a daily basis!

There's the perception we have of ourselves and who we are. Then there's the reality of who we are.

Rule of Life: You are what you do, not what you say you'll do.

Don't tell me what you're gonna do. Just be faithful and do it.

Orthodoxy (correct belief) without orthopraxy (correct conduct) is hypocrisy.

Mephibosheth - His view of self was based on disability. But David was coming to his house to pay respect to the grandson of a King!

Rule of Life: Don't forget who you are.

When we don't live in the Word of God, we end up with a distorted view of ourselves.

2 Corinthians 3:18 *"we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."*

The Word is activated in you, when you act out the Word!

James 1:26 *Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and*

*to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

Less talk, more walk.

Holiness is not a fundamental separation from society, but instead an involvement in the needs of the poor and outcast

Listen & Learn

Rule of Life: Pursue your assignment

Rule of Life: Criticize by creating!

Where has the enemy held you captive? Where have you allowed your gifts be held captive?