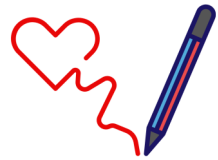


FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



True Freedom Is To Love and Serve One Another

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. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." (Galatians 5:13-14)

You have often heard that **"it is for freedom that Christ has set us free."** What are we free from? We are free from the bondage of sin, free to approach God, free from the fear of death, and so on. Each of us has experienced different types of freedom, but some of these freedoms are open to abuse because of the fleshly desires that are still in us. So, what can we do to ensure that our fleshly desires are indeed crucified with Christ and that our freedom is used to accomplish God's will? The answer is found in verse 13(b) of the above passage, **"but through love serve one another."** How is that so?

To serve others, we have to give up our selfish desires and put other people's interests above ours. One of the reasons why people stay away from serving is that their self-centredness takes centre stage. They do what they like to do and in the way they like it to be done. Serving others is too much of a sacrifice for them because it means having to give up one's preferences.

I have learned that the more I serve others, the more willing I am to give up my rights and overlook my self-desires. Not only that, the joy of serving others is something that cannot be attained through other means.

Doing God's work needs the support of one another. It doesn't matter if the church is big or small. What matters is whether the members are serving one another in the body of Christ.

Apostle Paul went on to say that serving one another fulfils the great commandment: "***You shall love your neighbour as yourself.***" We know from the story of the Good Samaritan that a "neighbour" is one who is in need. You do not have to look far to find one. In WAC and JACM, we have many different ministry needs. The existing servers of the various ministries are in need of help. They are your "neighbours". If you truly love God, will you take the step of faith to show your love for them too? Loving your neighbours is an expression of your love for God. The Missions Committee, Praise and Worship Ministry, Ushers Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, Children-in-Action Ministry, Church Staff Team and more, need your practical support. If you are not sure where and how you can help, we welcome you to have a chat with the pastors.

When we serve, we eliminate the opportunity for the flesh to abuse the freedom that Christ has given us. Let us all serve together for His glory!

Pastor Kelvin