

*A practical guidebook to help us take God at His word
and live lives of freedom and power. —Jennie Allen*

Nicole Unice



The
Struggle
is
Real.

Getting better at life,
stronger in faith,
and free from the stuff
keeping you stuck

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
204 ODESSA AVENUE
PITTSBURG, CA 94565**

Fall Bible Study

FREEDOM IN THE STRUGGLE

**PASTOR HENRY L. PERKINS,
INSTRUCTOR**

October 31, 2018

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REVIEW

YOUR STRUGGLE MATTERS

My struggle is real
My struggle is relational
My struggle is rewarding

THE STRUGGLE IS REAL

My struggle creates a broken spirit that requires me to
rely on God's wisdom for recovery.

TODAY'S LESSON

FREEDOM IN MY STRUGGLE

THERE IS FREEDOM IN MY STRUGGLE

OBJECTIVE:

- Students will be able to define freedom based on God's wisdom.
- Students will identify the work involved in obtaining freedom.
- Without Christ, there is no real freedom.

DEFINITION:

Freedom:

The power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint.

Biblical Definition:

Politeia (Po-le-ta-a)

The association of another in citizenship explained?

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PSALMS 107:1-16

The fruit of our life results in:

- Total freedom from my past hurts and regret.
- Total joy on a daily basis.

**THROUGH GOD'S WISDOM,
WE EXPERIENCE...**

- Wisdom necessary to be God's witness (Psalms 107:2)
- Being lost and found (Psalms 107:4-9)
- Being bound and set free (Psalms 107:10-16)

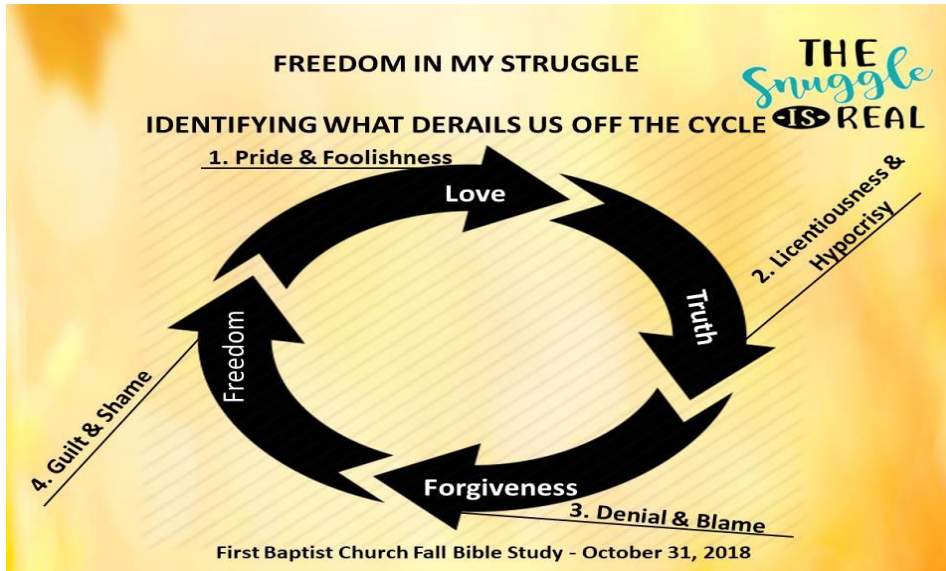
**GROUP EXERCISE
(Read Romans 6:16)**

1. What have you felt enslaved to in the past?
 - 1a. What have you done/are doing to become free?
2. Today what elements of enslavement are you experiencing?
 - 2a. What resources are you using to combat the aggression?



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OUR RETURN TO FREEDOM THROUGH GOD'S REDEMPTION

Which is:

- a) To be free from what **distresses** or harms us
- b) To be **free from captivity** by payment of ransom
- c) To **extricate** from or help to overcome something detrimental
- d) To be **released** from blame or debt
- e) To be **free from the consequences** of sin

When we realize His majesty and power in light of our frailty, our natural response should be gratitude and worship.

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PRAYER OF APPLICATION

Lord, You are my strength and my shield.

My heart trusts in You, and You are a helper to me.

My heart leaps for joy because of Your love, and I want to sing Your praises! Lord, I sing You my freedom song because You are worthy of my worship – and it's all because of Jesus. Thank You, Father! Amen.

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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Psalm 107 (NIV)

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

² Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

³ those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.^[a]

⁴ Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.

⁵ They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.

⁶ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

⁷ He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.

⁸ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,

⁹ for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

¹⁰ Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains,

¹¹ because they rebelled against God's commands and despised the plans of the Most High.

¹² So he subjected them to bitter labor; they stumbled, and there was no one to help.

¹³ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains.

¹⁵ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,

¹⁶ for he breaks down gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron.

Romans 6:16 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁶ Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

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Zephaniah 3:17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁷The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Psalms 25:5 New International Version (NIV)

⁵Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Psalms 145:18 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Matthew 26:25 New International Version (NIV)

²⁵Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me Rabbi?” Jesus answered, “You have said so.”

Acts 13:38 New International Version (NIV)

³⁸“Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

2 Corinthians 3:17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.