

## **Set Free:**

In this series we are looking at what it means to say someone is born again and set free to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus.

It all starts with the Spirit of God seeking the lost and revealing to us that we need a Saviour and His name is Jesus. As we accept Jesus as our Saviour the Spirit convicts us of the need for repentance before our Father. As a sign and seal of what has taken place we are baptised and finally the Spirit who started the whole birthing process seals us with his indwelling presence and gives us gifts.

In New Testament times this process often took less than 24 hours and the new believers were radically different from their former selves. In the contemporary UK church scene this process can take years and leads to many problems and often ineffective disciples. The aim of the course is to put our understanding of what being "born again" is all about back on track with Scripture and help us be disciples who make disciples.

13th Jan –New Beginnings

20<sup>th</sup> Jan – Believing in Jesus

27th Jan – Repentance towards a Holy God

3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Baptism in Water

10<sup>th</sup> Feb – Sealed by the Spirit

17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Becoming a disciple

**Fulwood Free Methodist Church**

**Message Series: Set free**

**Unpacking what it means to be "born again"**



**Week one – New Beginnings**

**Sunday Morning 13th January 2019**

## Questions for personal and home group study.

These questions are based around the content of today's talks at our morning services and it will also be useful to listen to the podcast and consider the key Scriptures.

### Key Scriptures:

**Ezekiel 36:25-29, John 3:1-18, Hebrews 5:11-6:3**

1. Jesus rebukes Nicodemus in John 3:7. What were the reasons for this and why should Nicodemus not have been surprised? (refer to Ezekiel 36:25-29 & Jeremiah 31:31-34)
2. Being "born again" and the implications of that new birth is a regular theme in the New Testament and was clearly very significant in the life of the early believers.  
Look at the following passages and list how it should impact our lives.  
(Titus 3:5, 1 Peter 1:3, 1 John 2:29, 1 John 5:1, 4 & 18)
3. In the letter to the Hebrews there is a passage (5:11-6:3) that is addressed to believers who have been around long enough to have been leaders, but the writer considers that they are still at the "new born" stage of life needing milk, not solid food. 6:1-2 lists the teachings that are considered to be elementary/milk.
  - What are these teachings?
  - Why can't we leave the baby stage of our discipleship if we have not got a hold of these?
4. Think about your personal timeline and put dates against the following stages of your life as a disciple of Jesus.
  - Recognised that God loved you and wanted a relationship with you
  - Prayed an initial prayer of commitment to him
  - Acceptance of His forgiveness following your repentance
  - First knew the presence of the Holy Spirit
  - Baptised in water
5. When you look at other people's timelines the gaps between stages varies as does the order.
  - What factors affect the length of the gap?
  - Does everything need to be in a specific order? (See Acts 19:1-7)
6. A Christian friend asks you for advice about what he should say to help a colleague who has just asked him what he needs to do to become a Christian. What advice would you give today and in following days?