

Gospel Lighthouse Church  
Sunday Morning Worship Service  
1/19/25

Obedience 3  
Creating a Culture of Freedom

Text: Joshua 1:7-8

Introduction: Spiritual life requires living according to God's Word. God's instruction to Joshua highlights the need for obedience to experience freedom. Obedience fosters a culture of freedom, addressing humanity's universal thirst for freedom.

- The foundation of freedom.
- Joshua 1:7-8 promises prosperity and success, emphasizing a culture of freedom over oppression.
- Freedom is based on clear choices and consequences, not manipulation.
- Defining culture.
- Culture is shaped by language, tone, and shared values.
- Dr. Samuel Chand: "Culture—not vision or strategy—is the most powerful factor in any organization."

"Culture impacts creativity, morale, teamwork, and outcomes."

- Freedom through obedience to God's Word.
- Consistent meditation on God's Word aligns actions with His will (Joshua 1:8).
- Obedience to God fosters freedom, not fear.
- The early church's culture was rooted in teaching, fellowship, and prayer—Acts 2:42.
- God's laws and commitment to freedom.
- The Israelites' exodus from Egypt exemplifies God's desire for freedom.
- The Sabbatical Year of Jubilee in Leviticus 25 emphasizes God's commitment to freedom.
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the culture of freedom. (January 15, 1929—April 4, 1968).
- He promoted freedom through nonviolence and love, inspired by Jesus and Gandhi.
- Dr. King's six principles of nonviolence: courage, understanding, justice, transformation, love, and truth.
- He envisioned a society "The beloved community" free from racism, poverty, inequality, and violence. (<https://www.biography.com/activists/martin-luther-king-jr>)
- Jesus and the culture of the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus emphasized internal transformation to create external cultural impact.
- True freedom is realized by aligning with God's Kingdom principles.

Conclusion: Freedom is fulfilled through obedience to God's Word. Following the examples of Joshua, Jesus, the early church, which is the message that captivated Dr. King's heart, will cultivate a culture of freedom rooted in love and justice.

JDF

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