

Merry Christmas!!

We can't wait to celebrate with you this year. Please use the invite tab on our app to share and invite anyone to our Christmas gatherings!



DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Friday December 9	6pm	LOVE HAS COME <i>WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS EVENT</i>
Sunday December 18	9am & 11am	<i>Children's Program</i>
Thursday December 22		No Service
Friday December 23	7pm	CHRISTMAS GATHERING
Saturday December 24	1pm 4pm 7pm	CHRISTMAS GATHERING
Sunday December 25	On Demand All Day	Special Christmas at Home Online Service
Thursday December 29	6:30pm	Dig Deeper
Sunday January 1	9am & 11am	Encounter Jesus

*Offices closed December 25 - December 31

CHRISTMAS
AT AWAKEN LAS VEGAS

A graphic with a red background. On the left, there is a collage of geometric shapes in white, orange, and teal, including circles, triangles, and stars. On the right, the text 'CHRISTMAS AT HOME ONLINE' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, in smaller white text, it says 'DECEMBER 25 ON DEMAND ON YOUTUBE AND OUR WEBSITE ALL DAY'.



ENCOUNTER JESUS

Week 16 | JESUS HAS THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE YOU FREE | John 8:31-36

TO KNOW THE TRUTH MEANS TO KNOW JESUS

A 21st-century Jewish Rabbi made this statement about the power of words: “Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity.” And to a degree, I think he was right. When the General yells “charge,” the military unit goes to battle. When the doctor says, “It’s a girl,” you are wrapped around a little finger for the rest of your life. When the pastor says, “I pronounce you man and wife,” there is a beautiful and supernatural work of God in that moment that causes the two to become one. But with that said, no one’s words are more powerful than Jesus’. Just ask the woman who was caught in adultery what she felt when Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on, sin no more.” Jesus’ words are especially powerful, well, because they are His. Did you know the Bible says that the whole universe is upheld by the word of His power? Jesus’ words have the power to set people free, and that is exactly what every human being needs; to be set free from the power of sin. In a society that has abandoned truth, we need His truth more than ever. And when we really receive His truth, it is then that we will know true freedom.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, take time to reflect and pray over this weekend’s message. Think specifically about how Christ’s truth has set you free. Spend time thanking Him.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you’ve had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. When it comes to truth, our society is a spiritual warzone, and what our culture proclaims as freedom is, more often than not, enslavement. **Discuss examples of how you battle against this darkness and support one another with words of prayer and encouragement.**
2. While the secular culture would say truth is unknowable, Jesus was clear that truth existed and that it was knowable. **What is truth? How is it knowable? Describe your own experience with Christ and His truth.**

IF JESUS IS TRUTH, THEN EVERYTHING HE SAID IS TRUE.

3. **What does Jesus’ truth set you free from? How does it set you free (what place do faith and obedience have)? Discuss this as a group. Discuss how you have experienced His liberating power, and also discuss areas where you still need to walk in the victory.**



BUT THANKS BE TO GOD, THAT YOU WHO WERE ONCE SLAVES OF SIN HAVE BECOME OBEDIENT FROM THE HEART TO THE STANDARD OF TEACHING TO WHICH YOU WERE COMMITTED, AND, HAVING BEEN SET FREE FROM SIN, HAVE BECOME SLAVES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

ROMANS 6:17-18

4. James describes receiving God's word like an implanted seed. **Spend time discussing how this illustration describes how you can know whether you have really received God's word/truth.**

LIVE AS PEOPLE WHO ARE FREE, NOT USING YOUR FREEDOM AS A COVER-UP FOR EVIL, BUT LIVING AS SERVANTS OF GOD.

1 PETER 2:16



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.



RESOURCE TO BUILD DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH HOLY SPIRIT



Encounter Jesus Page

Pastor Derek has assembled additional resource to help you build a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit on the sermon series page on our website. You can find it by scanning here or click on the link found on our homepage.



REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, make a point to live truth but also to share the good news that Jesus and His truth sets people free from sin. Pray that God will bring at least one person into your life this week so that you can share this good news.

