

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment.

I taught all of our children how to drive. I gave each one the same lecture. We talked about the importance of the vehicle, safety, and all those things, but then I always said this, “Driving is a wonderful skill to have. It’s great. It gives you a whole new level of freedom, a greater degree of independence. You can go more places, but you’re not free to do whatever you want to do.” I then underscored the principle that greater freedom always comes with greater responsibility, and that the abuse of freedom will bring consequences.

It’s true in all of life, isn’t it? Freedom is never the abdication of responsibility. Many people say we’re free to do whatever we want to do, as long as it doesn’t hurt you. But freedom is to be exercised and experienced within the context of boundaries.

I believe that’s why we have Galatians chapter 5, verse 13. Listen to these words; “For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Did you hear that? Let me run that by you again, “only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh.” God says, “Yes you’re free. You are free, but your freedom has boundaries. There’s a context for your freedom.” Your freedom must never selfishly be turned inward. Paul says, “Let your freedom be the platform to serve and to love others, to empower others and that’s how you need to express the freedom that you have in Jesus Christ.” It’s not a declaration of our rights, it’s a platform of responsibility.

Here’s what I want you to remember today. Let’s not use our freedom as leverage to do what we want to do. Let’s express our freedom in the context of love and service to others.