



MESSAGE NOTES

THE LOOP CAMPUS

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

July 2, 2017 • Dr. David Self, Executive Pastor of Houston's First Baptist Church

"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." "We are descendants of Abraham," they answered Him, "and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can You say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus responded, "I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you really will be free." John 8:32–36

▶ _____ of Freedom: solitary, _____,
powerful, destructive

▶ **Christian Freedom: communal, submissive, powerful,** _____

▶ **Caricature of the Gerasene** Mark 5:1–20

- Solitary — "He lived in the tombs" 5:3a
- _____ — "No one was able to restrain him anymore—even with chains—because he often had been bound with shackles and chains, but he had snapped off the chains and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him." 5:3b–4
- Powerful — "My name is Legion...because we are many." 5:10
- Destructive — "And always, night and day, he was crying out among the tombs and in the mountains and cutting himself with stones." 5:5

▶ **Miracle of Transformation**

- Communal — "They came to Jesus" 5:15
- Submissive — "...and saw the man who had been demon-possessed by the legion, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind" 5:15
- Powerful — "they were afraid" 5:15b
- _____ — "Go back home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you." 5:19

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Generosity
AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

Week ending June 25, 2017

First-time givers
All givers

29
930

Thank you for giving to the ministry and missional impact of Houston's First! Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Giving to find the church's monthly financial reports, including a summary of contributions and expenses.

TAKING A STEP

Make an Impact at Your Campus

As we are all called to step up and serve — either for the first time or by expanding your role — you're invited to let the church know where you are interested in making an impact. Here's how to do it:

WHAT ARE YOUR GIFTS?

Take a confidential online spiritual gifts assessment free of charge courtesy of Houston's First! While not required to volunteer, the assessment can assist you in determining where to serve with your spiritual gifts.

- Go to HoustonsFirst.org and search "Spiritual Gifts."

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS?

Fill out the "Step Up To Serve" interest form to indicate areas that interest you. Then, team leaders will contact you about taking the next step!

- Go to HoustonsFirst.org and search "STEPUP" or
- Text "STEPUP" to 41411 to receive a link on your mobile device.

**GOING
GIVING
PRAYING**

DECISIONS

Week ending June 25, 2017

Baptized

Jeff Blackwell

For Baptism

Ali Mollai

Lynda Okoronkwo

Stephen Okoronkwo

From Other Fellowship

Damon Knabe

Kristen Mercer

Jamil Thorne

Jasmine Thorne

Nykoya Watson

Jessica White

Statement

Miriam Moore

Robert White

ATTENDANCE

Week ending June 25, 2017

Life Bible Study

Mission Bible Study

Total Bible Study

4,836

84

4,920

BIRTHS

- Mark & Courtney Reese in the birth of their son, David
- Lauren & Chris Boyles in the birth of their daughter, Lily Leigh

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

During worship services at The Loop Campus, complimentary devices may be checked out from the Receptionist Desk in the Main Foyer.

MOBILE GIVING

Share your generosity with Houston's First via your mobile device! Text "HFBCLoop" to 77977 to receive a link where you can make a one-time donation or establish recurring giving. Donations can be made to the following:

- Great Commission Budget
- Benevolence
- Local Missions

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