

1. **Intro** - A battery is a power source that gets depleted over use and time. God’s love is a never-ending power source.
2. **Main Idea** - Obedience is faith energized by love.
3. **Scripture** - Romans 5:9-11
4. **Story** - Woman healed at the Synagogue
5. **Text** - Luke 13:10-17 - Key Points:
 1. At this point the Pharisees are in open opposition to Jesus. - AD 31 Ministry in Perea Synagogue
 2. Being crippled with a severe curvature of the spine or osteoporosis didn’t keep her from coming to church. She wasn’t discouraged after coming out for hope in 18 years of waiting for God to hear her prayers for healing.
 3. Deformities would have been seen as stricken from God and the Jews would have degraded this woman as a third class citizen. She was “bowed over” and in this story represents someone who has been burdened by the heavy yoke of sin.
 4. The “spirit of infirmity” is an elusion to the permission that the devil has to cripple us in our sins.
 5. Sin bows us down (ps. 38.6). Sorrow bows us down (ps. 42.5). Suffering bows us down (ps. 44.25). But God raises us up and redeems us for the sake of His lovingkindness.
6. **Affirmation** - “If you don’t think that Jesus understands your pain. Know this story, and realize that God’s power is as strong today as it was 2000 years ago.
7. **Obedience is faith energized by love.**
8. **Quote** - F.F. Bruce in his book on Apostle of the Heart Set Free quotes John Calvin’s statement: “Christ is much more powerful to save than Adam was to ruin.”
9. **Text** - Romans 5:1-11 - Wiersbe’s Outline:
 1. **The Basis of Justification**
 1. We Have Peace (v. 1)
 1. “Peace with God means that our problem with sin has been settled by the blood of Christ. God is our Father, not our Judge.” - Wiersbe
 2. We Have Access to God (v. 2a)

1. (Hebrews 10:19-25- “Full Assurance of Faith”)
3. We Have Hope (v. 2b)
 1. (Eph. 2:13-16)
4. We Have Daily Confidence (v. 3-4)
 1. (James 1:3ff)
5. We experience the Love of God (v. 5-11)
 1. **Quote** - “The Spirit within sheds God’s love to us and through us. God revealed His love at the cross when Christ died for those who were “without strength,” who were “ungodly,” “sinners,” and “enemies,” thus proving His great love. Paul’s argument is this: if God did all that for us while we were His enemies, how much more will He do for us now that we are His children! We are saved by Christ’s death (v. 9), but we are also saved by His life (v. 10) as “the power of His resurrection” (Phil. 3:10) operates in our lives. We have received “reconciliation” (atonement, v. 11), and now the love of God is experienced in our lives.” - Warren Wiersbe
2. **Point** - “Every human being is either “in Adam” and lost, or “in Christ” and saved; there is no middle ground.” - Wiersbe
3. **Application** - “If we believe Satan’s lies we will be tempted to turn away from God. He would then lead us into more pain and brokenness in his attempt to destroy us (John 10:10).
4. However, when we believe the truth from God’s perspective, we will experience the security we need in order to be honest with God, confess our sins to Him, receive his forgiveness, and allow Him to “cleanse us from all unrighteousness” 1 John 1:9.
5. **Story** - Pharisee declared Sabbath as a day free of God’s healing -
 1. **Enter the legalist:** Works is belief energized by fear.

2. Here we see a different spirit at work: The kind of spirit that is a form of godliness, but denies the power thereof. This man is more enslaved than the crippled woman whom he intends to rebuke. What a hardhearted soul! **To reject clear evidence of God's divine power and angrily defy the Savior's redemption.** There are such spirits at work in our midst today friends. People who would claim the keys to heaven and hell and would close the pearly gates with iron clasps. **Jesus can break those chains of legalism and judgment. In this story Christ looks at this bigotry as base hypocrisy and a worst kind of sin.** You can see how little of redemption had worked in this man's life, for if it was he who was crippled physically, he would not have cared which day of the week he was healed.
6. **Quote** - “In the work of redemption there is no compulsion. No external force is employed. Under the influence of the Spirit of God, man is left free to choose whom he will serve. In the change that takes place when the soul surrenders to Christ, there is the highest sense of freedom. The expulsion of sin is the act of the soul itself. **True, we have no power to free ourselves from Satan's control; but when we desire to be set free from sin, and in our great need cry out for a power out of and above ourselves, the powers of the soul are imbued with the divine energy of the Holy Spirit, and they obey the dictates of the will in fulfilling the will of God.** {DA 466.4}
7. **The only condition upon which the freedom of man is possible is that of becoming one with Christ.** “The truth shall make you free;” and Christ is the truth. Sin can triumph only by enfeebling the mind, and destroying the liberty of the soul. **Subjection to God is restoration to one's self,--to the true glory and dignity of man.** {DA 466.5}
8. **Text** - “So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.” (James 2:12 NAS95)
9. **Main Idea** - Obedience is faith energized by love.
— — — Works is belief energized by fear.
10. Dr. Steven Vitrano outlines what he calls “practical terms” for applying the relevant counsel given by God:
11. 1. Begin the day “in Christ” and “set your mind on the things of the Spirit”. Start your day with prayer and faithful Bible study.
12. 2. Throughout the day, grow in the knowledge of God's will and learn how to cooperate with Him when dealing with temptation.
13. 3. At the end of the day, accept God's forgiveness. AS you reflect on the day's events, take your burdens and cares to Him knowing that He is powerful to “loose you of your infirmities”. And forgive your sins.
Appeal Story - “Freedom realized through believing”-
— Once the Emperor of Russia had a plan by which he was to liberate the peasants of that country. There were forty millions of them. Of some of them, their whole time was sold; of others, only a part. The emperor called around him his council, and wanted to have them devise some way to set them free. After they had conferred about it for six months, one night the council sent in their decision, sealed, that they thought it was not expedient. The emperor went down to the Greek Church that night and partook of the Lord's Supper, and he set his house in order, and the next morning you could hear the tramp of soldiers in the streets of St. Petersburg. The emperor summoned his guard, and before noon sixty-five thousand men were surrounding that palace. Just at midnight there came out a proclamation that every slave in Russia was for ever set free. The proclamation had gone forth, and all the slaves of the realm-believed it. They have been free ever since. Suppose they had not believed it? They never then would have got the benefit of it.