

# **TRANSFORMATION COMMUNITY CHURCH**

***David Dickson - Senior Leader***



## **THE MESSAGE**

JAMES 1:22

"..DON'T JUST LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD. YOU MUST DO WHAT IT SAYS.  
OTHERWISE, YOU ARE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELVES."



# SET FREE: *LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF* GRACE

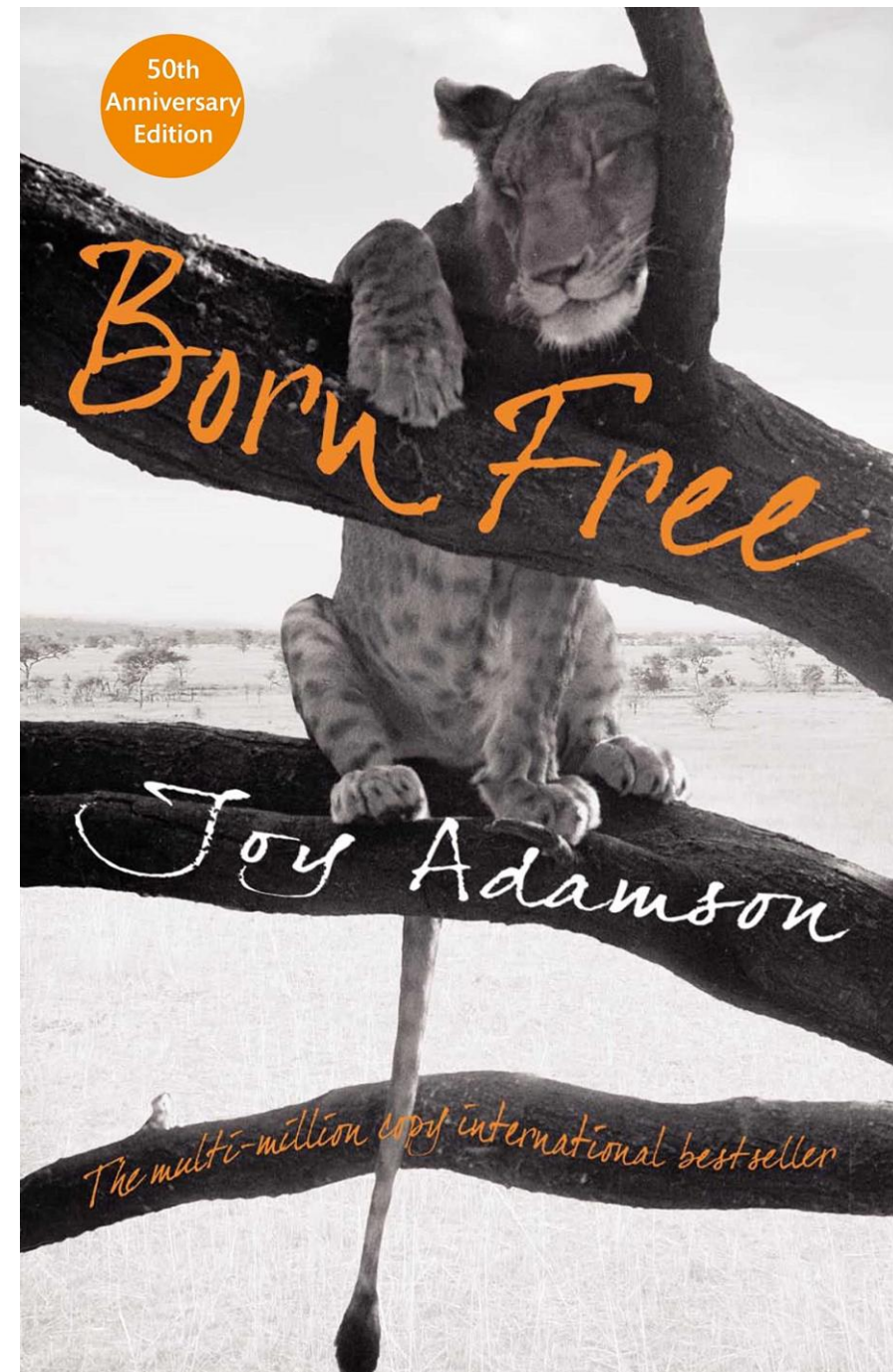
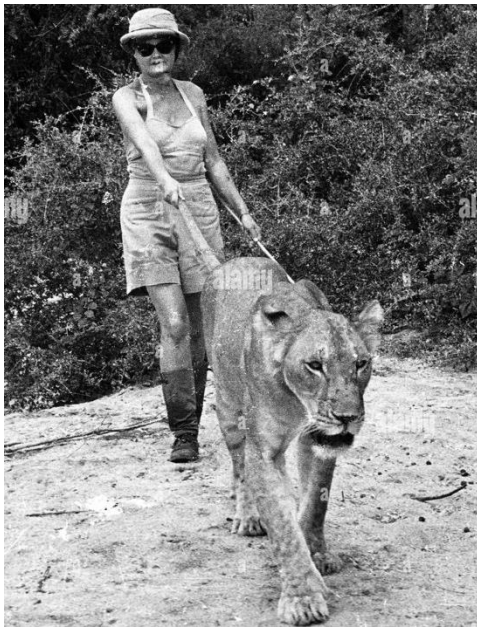
Part 3 – Galatians 1:1-11 to 2:10

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF GALATIANS





Written  
in 1960 it  
sold 50  
million  
copies  
and later  
became  
a world-  
famous  
film



# SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SET FREE IN THE FREEDOM OF GRACE?



SET FREE: **LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF GRACE**





# SET FREE IN GRACE MEANS WE HAVE ONE GOSPEL, NOT MANY CULTURAL VERSIONS

(READING SECTION Galatians 1:11–12; 2:6)

SET FREE: **LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF GRACE**



The gospel Paul preached did not come from any culture—Jewish, Greek, or Roman—but by **revelation from Jesus Christ**.

- **Gal 1:1** Paul's changed life proves the power and reliability of the gospel and he established his authority.
- **Eph 4:4-6** “one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father who is over all”
- **2 Peter 1:20-21** the gospel is not personal interpretation or preference (that's why it can't be “my truth”).

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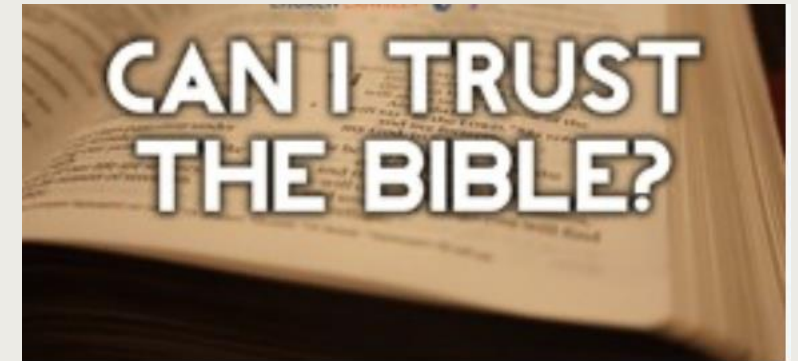
24/04/2022

Can I trust the bible?



13/07/2025

The Living Word Part 5 –  
The Inerrancy of Scripture



[www.transformationcommunity.church/media](http://www.transformationcommunity.church/media)

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In an intercultural church, we bring rich histories, values, and traditions—but **none of our cultures get to edit the gospel.**

- Some cultures add **rules and respectability**
- Others add **success, experience, or freedom**
- Some turn faith into **belonging before believing**

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Why is that important?

Paul reminds us: “*God does not show favouritism.*” (Gal 2:6)

Peter experienced it in **Acts 10:34**

James warned against the **sin of favouritism** in James 2:9

**YOUR CULTURE IS NOT THE GOSPEL**

**Eph 2:14-16 ONE PEOPLE**

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We don't need to become like *each other* to belong—we need to be shaped by **Christ alone**.

*Unity doesn't come from shared culture, but from shared grace.*

SET FREE: LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF GRACE





# SET FREE IN GRACE MEANS WE HAVE EQUAL BELONGING, NOT SPIRITUAL HIERARCHIES

READING SECTION Galatians 2:1–5; 2:9

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- Culture loves to add conditions - you are accepted when you listen to the same music, wear the same clothes, have the same political views.
- Social media is designed to give you more of what you believe - an “echo chamber”
- Paul refuses to let Titus (a Gentile) be forced into Jewish cultural practices to be accepted as a true believer.





Paul fights fiercely because he knows  
**adding cultural requirements destroys grace.**

*“We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.” (Gal 2:5)*

Jesus + nothing = **EVERYTHING**

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# Good News of Grace is that at the cross:

- No culture is **superior**
- No background is **inferior**
- No one earns a better seat at the table

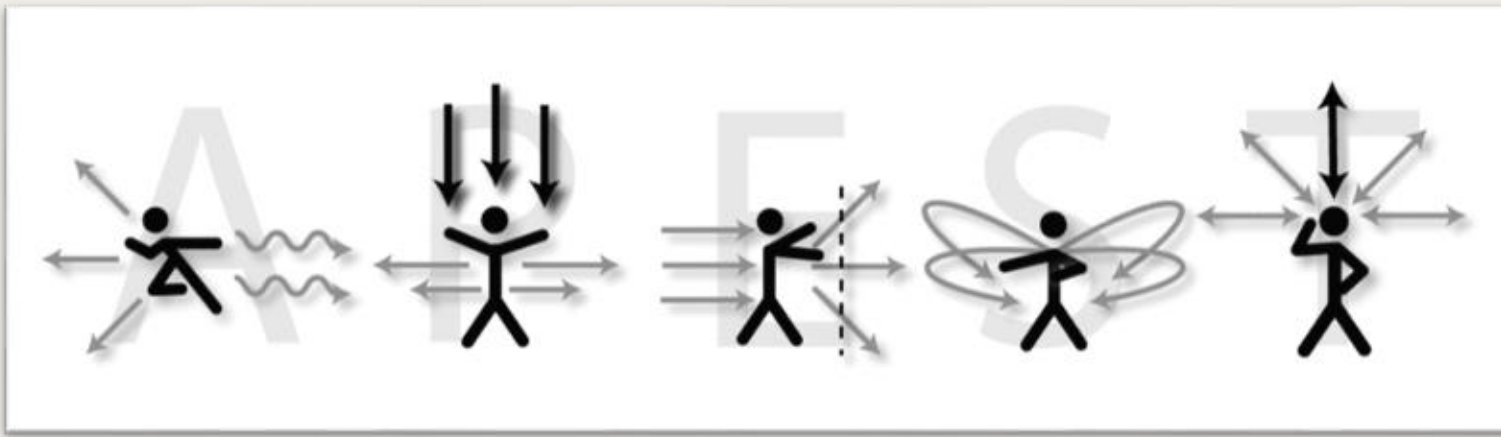
## 1 Cor 12:18-26

one body many parts with a diversity of giftings

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## Eph 4:11-13 APEST assessment

APEST is a ministry assessment emerging from the most comprehensive statement of ministry structure in Ephesians 4. Within this passage we find the fivefold ministry of APEST: apostolic, prophetic, evangelist, shepherd and teacher.

If you haven't already done so take the APEST to learn your area of motivation and expression of the 5 fold model of ministry.

Purchase your assessment for \$10 online at <https://5qcentral.com/tests/> and then send me the results at [david.dickson@tcchurch.org.uk](mailto:david.dickson@tcchurch.org.uk)

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# SET FREE IN GRACE MEANS WE ARE SENT OUT TOGETHER ON ONE MISSION

READING SECTION Galatians 2:7–10

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The apostles recognise different callings—same gospel, **shared mission**.

Spiritual authority comes from God's calling, not human approval. (Gal 1:10)

- Paul to the Gentiles
- Peter to the Jews
- One message, one grace, one purpose

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## Philippians 1:27 “contending as one for the Gospel”

An intercultural church is not a problem to solve—it’s a **gospel picture to protect**.

We don’t all serve the same way, speak the same way, or reach the same people—but:

*“They added nothing to my message.” (Gal 2:6)*

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# VISION & VALUES

**TRANSFORMATION  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**



**VISION**

**VALUES**

We are a God-centred, Spirit-empowered Church, working to build a community of transformed disciples of Jesus who are:

- Intercultural
- Intergenerational
- International



**TRANSFORMATION  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

# CONCLUSION:

What does it mean to be set free in the freedom of grace?

**It means we have one Gospel, not many cultural versions**

- **One Gospel** – not shaped or defined by culture

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# CONCLUSION:

What does it mean to be set free in the freedom of grace?

**It means we have equal belonging, not spiritual hierarchies**

- **One Grace** – no second-class believers

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# CONCLUSION:

What does it mean to be set free in the freedom of grace?

**It means we are sent out together on one mission**

- **One Mission** – many people, one Christ

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# Prayer Declaration:

Lord, help me to live free in grace,  
not trying to earn Your love.

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