



DATE	September 10, 2017
SPEAKER	David Smith
TITLE	Way Too Demanding
SERIES	Jesus invites us to follow him, and His invitation is for everyone. Following Jesus isn't just obeying a set of rules; His way is much better than that. Learn what it means to "walk this way," and how we can experience change and freedom that will be evident to the world.

The good news of Christ is a call to freedom. God's revealed will for all of us, is that we have the opportunity, the ability, and the desire to do what will give us the greatest satisfaction now and in a thousand years.

1. How would you explain belief in a Triune God to a new believer? To a not-yet believer?
2. What does Paul mean by "keeping in step with the Spirit?" in your opinion?
3. Read Luke 9:18-26. In Jesus' day, the cross was a symbol of suffering, pain, and even death. Describe in your own words the lifestyle that Jesus is calling his followers to in verse 23?
4. Our culture and our religion define freedom differently. What does our culture say about freedom? How does that differ from the church's belief of freedom?
5. Pastor Smith said there are several ways to be tenaciously connected to Jesus. We stay connected through church, small groups, giving, and serving. What are other daily steps you can take to do this? How do you keep your family connected to Jesus?
6. Read Matthew 22:37. How is walking in the Spirit connected to the Great Commandment? How is love expressed here and in v. 6 in conflict to those who feel they have a license to do what they want?
7. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12 Does this support or is in conflict with today's teaching?
8. Since we're made alive by the Spirit (John 14:26), why is walking by the Spirit so difficult? Why do we still struggle with sin?
9. Pastor Smith suggested that we make a choice to allow the spirit to occupy an area of sin we need to let go of. How is this not just a more complex form of "trying harder"?
10. Are there areas you want to surrender more fully to the Lord? What are some steps you are taking to do this?

We have freedom in Christ. Why, then, do so many Christians live as though they are still in bondage? For one thing, we often rebel against our Master, refusing to obey Him and clinging to our old lives. Are you clinging to chains from your old life?

