

Freedom Fellowship Pillars

October 2025

Obeying Jesus

This vision drives our ministry: It is what God *is doing*, and it is how we join in his work with dependence on him.

We are driven by the **compassion, generosity, patience, faithful kindness, and truthfulness**, and the reality of God's judgment. Because we have been **freely given** to, we **freely give**. Our mission is to obey Jesus; proclaim the good news, offer healing in Jesus name, make disciples and care for one another..

Key Principles for Ministry

1. Obeying Jesus

- Being a disciple means trusting, following, and obeying Jesus. It's a journey where, as we set out to obey, we realize we can't do it except by living in our new God-given identity, by the new life we have in the Spirit. It means we know what God says and we heed it. In the process, we trust ourselves less and trust him more and more—coming to know him more deeply and being inwardly transformed. We are conformed into the image of God's son.. Over time, obeying Jesus becomes a natural expression of who we are, as his life shapes ours. *"A good tree cannot bring forth bad fruit."*

2. Proclaiming Jesus

- God is establishing his rule through Jesus Christ, his Son. We are called to **proclaim this good news**—inviting people to transfer their trust, believe, and enter into peace with God. This means entering God's sphere of authority, care, and provision, aligning ourselves with his work and purposes here on earth.

3. Healing in Jesus' Name

- Jesus' ministry of healing met the needs of people and signified the restoration to full life that is to fully come in his Kingdom. We can heal in Jesus' name and offer practical help in whatever form it moves people closer

to what God intends. **Healing** is about restoration and offering any **practical help in Jesus' name**. We aim to be a visible reflection of his love in action and do so while verbally pointing people to Jesus.

4. Making Disciples of Jesus

- As we proclaim the good news, teach the way of Jesus, and offer practical help in his name, some will want to follow Jesus. As Jesus modeled personal discipleship by living life with his disciples, we want to imitate his way of personal involvement in other disciples' lives. We want to be intentional in playing our part to help people become more like Jesus in their character.

5. Loving One Another like Jesus Loves

- We are called to **create a community** where the love of God is visible to the world. This means using our **gifts** and **resources** to love one another and build up the church. Our relationships should be a picture of God's love, where all members are valued, encouraged and edified.

Elder Responsibility

As shepherds, our role in caring for flock is as follows::

- Keep the **vision** and **mission** of God's purposes as revealed in his word at the forefront.
- **Equip people** for works of service, helping them grow in their faith and abilities and in unity with one another.
- Create and maintain the **structures** necessary for this mission, including identifying and supporting other disciples who will carry it forward.

This is how we build a community that reflects God's love and lives out his purposes in the world.

Core Scriptures

Exodus 34.6-7

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

Matthew 9.35-36a

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, **teaching** in their synagogues, **proclaiming the good news of the kingdom** and **healing** every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them...

Matthew 10.7-8

As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

Matthew 28.18-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go** and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching** them **to obey** everything I have commanded you. And surely **I am with you** always, to the very end of the age.

Ephesians 4.11-16

So **Christ** himself **gave** the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 **to equip his people for works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach **unity** in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become **mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

14 Then we will **no longer** be **infants, tossed back and forth** by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 **Instead**, speaking the **truth in love**, we will grow to become in every respect the **mature** body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows and builds itself up in love**, as **each part does its work**.

Ephesians 2.10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do **good works**, which **God prepared in advance for us to do**.

1 Corinthians 14.26

When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

John 13.34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

John 14.15

If you love me, keep my commands.

1 John 3.23

And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

1 John 5.18

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them.

Isaiah 61.1-3

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,

and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord
for the display of his splendor.

Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Hebrews 12.14

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

(Context is unity and avoiding sexual immorality, greed, and controlled by appetites instead of having self-control. Control over one's appetites instead of being controlled by them.

1 Peter 1.15–16

As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

2 Corinthians 5.9–11, 20

So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others.... 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

2 Peter 3.11–12

Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

Psalms 127.1a

Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.

General Outline

Each pillar can be supported using passages from Matthew, Acts, and even more specifically, the Sermon on the Mount. This outline helps demonstrate that.

- 1. Obeying Jesus
 - Matthew
 - The Parable of the Two Sons (Matthew 21:28–32)
 - The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16–20)
 - Sermon on the Mount
 - The Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7:24–27)
 - Acts
 - The Apostles Obeying God Rather Than Men (Acts 5:27–32)
 - Paul's Obedience After His Conversion (Acts 9)
 - Cross references
 - Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15–16; 2 Corinthians 5:9–11, 20
- 2. Proclaiming Jesus
 - Matthew
 - Jesus Sending Out the Twelve (Matthew 10:5–15)
 - The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1–23)
 - Sermon on the Mount
 - Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13–16)
 - Acts
 - Peter Proclaiming the Gospel at Pentecost (Acts 2)
 - Philip Proclaiming Christ to the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26–40)
 - Paul Proclaiming the Unknown God in Athens (Acts 17:16–34)
 - Cross references
 - Matthew 9:35–36a; Matthew 10:7–8; Luke 4:18; Matthew 24:14
- 3. Healing in Jesus' name
 - Matthew
 - Jesus Healing the Paralytic (Matthew 9:1–8)
 - Jesus Healing the Centurion's Servant (Matthew 8:5–13)
 - Sermon on the Mount
 - Blessed Are the Merciful (Matthew 5:7)
 - Acts
 - Peter and John Healing the Lame Man (Acts 3:1–10)
 - Paul Healing the Lame Man in Lystra (Acts 14:8–10)

- Cross references
 - 1 Peter 2:24; Matthew 9:35–36a; Matthew 10:7–8; Ephesians 4:11–16; James 5:14–15
- 4. Making Disciples of Jesus
 - Matthew
 - Jesus Calling the First Disciples (Matthew 4:18–22)
 - Jesus Calling Matthew the Tax Collector (Matthew 9:9–13)
 - Sermon on the Mount
 - Practicing and Teaching the Commands (Matthew 5:17–20)
 - Acts
 - Paul Discipling Timothy (Acts 16)
 - Priscilla and Aquila Discipling Apollos (Acts 18:24–28)
 - Barnabas Discipling Paul (Acts 9:26–30; 11:25–30)
 - Cross references
 - Matthew 28:19–20; Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 4:19; John 15:16
- 5. Loving One Another Like Jesus Loves
 - Matthew
 - The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:23–35)
 - Love Your Enemies (Matthew 5:43–48)
 - Sermon on the Mount
 - Love Your Enemies (Matthew 5:43–48)
 - Acts
 - The Early Church Sharing All Things in Common (Acts 2:42–47)
 - The Believers Sending Relief to Judea (Acts 11:27–30)
 - Cross references
 - Exodus 34:6–7; John 13:34–35; 1 John 3:23; Romans 12:10; Ephesians 4:32; Galatians 6:2