

# Worship at First Christian Church

October 5, 2014

## Call To Worship      *Psalm 100*

*Wonderful Grace of Jesus (#360)  
Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

*Only God*  
Chancel Choir

## Sharing the Lord's Supper

*Shout to the Lord  
Shine on Us*

## Worship through Giving

## Doxology

## Children's Church (Ages 4-8)

(Parents, please gather your children from the playground after service)

## Scripture: Acts 21:17-26

## Message from the Word: "Free to be Enslaved?"

Pastor Jeremy Emerling

## Closing Song: *Refiner's Fire*

## "First Things First

Acts 21: 17-26

**Big Question:** Why would Paul put himself back under the Mosaic Law after telling everyone that they were free from the Law?

I. Paul used his freedom in Christ to constrain himself in service to others.

*"Though I am free and belong to no one,  
I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.  
To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews."*

-1 Corinthians 9: 19-20

II. Paul has his theological beliefs in proper order.

This WAS NOT a question of:

- Salvation
- Morality

This WAS a question of:

- Custom, culture, and tradition
- Unity

**Answer:** Paul's first priority was to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action, and he was willing to constrain his own freedom in order to achieve that goal.

Questions for reflection:

1. What traditions or theological stances are you willing to temporarily set aside OR adopt for the sake of proclaiming the Gospel?
2. In the past, have you used your God-given freedom to unify or divide God's church?