**WOODLANDS CHURCH**

**September 22nd 2019. Loser**

**Discussion notes: Losing your chains. Luke 4:14-20. 2 Corinthians 3:17**

Freedom is something everyone seems to look for but is actually very elusive. In Luke 4 Jesus announces his own mission as one who in the Jubilee tradition of Israel has come to proclaim freedom to prisoners. Paul in 2 Corinthians says ‘Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom’. The Hymn writers and revivalists celebrate freedom ‘The prisoner leaps to loose his chains’ writes Charles Wesley. The book of common prayer says of God his ‘service is perfect freedom’.

1. Do you feel free? What ‘chains’ do you carry in life right now? Responsibilities? Shame? Anxiety and fear? Performance drivers?
2. What is this freedom that Jesus and Paul talk about? What is different about having faith in Jesus than religion which seems to so many such a binding, un-freeing thing?
3. In what way does the life of the Spirit inaugurate freedom? What does a free human being look like? Who is it that seems to embody a healthy freedom to you?
4. What binds us, prevents us from enjoying unself-conscious freedom?

Chains, bondage speak of captivity or slavery. People who bring literal freedom as in the work of I.J.M are to be celebrated. But spiritually who enslaves us? What does ‘deliverance’ ministry mean to you in the broad scope of finding freedom? How do we minister freedom to one another?