****

**Week 5**

**Overcoming Obstacles to Freedom**

**INTRODUCTION**

There was a kid in my third-grade class named Shawn, he was super cool. I thought he was so cool that I started to try and talk like him and do things the way he did. Have you ever had a time in your life when you really admired someone and strove to change who you were to be more like that person?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. One of the great deceptions that exists is that people tend to value themselves in comparison to others, is comparison a problem for you?
2. Often times we try to use comparison as a type of currency in God’s Kingdom – at least I’m not like that person, or at least I don’t do that thing. Why do you think people tend to do that?
3. On Sunday, pastor Phil said that comparing yourself to others is a prison; what do you think are some ways to get out of that prison?
4. Another deception that people have that limits their freedom is that we think we’re exempt from the reap what you sow principle. How have you encountered this in your life?
5. A key step in sowing and reaping is the waiting between the two; do you find it hard to be patient while your waiting for reaping benefits from things you have sown?
6. Talk about some things you can sow spiritually this week.

**STEPPING FORWARD**

This week try to focus on the grace you’ve received in Jesus and measure your life based on that rather than comparison to someone else. After all, God created you to be you, not someone else.

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

**Galatians 5:1**