



# FREEDOM CHURCH

**"...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Freedom."  
2 Corinthians 3:17**

## Pastor Mark's Remarks

November is upon us, and that means that election time is here. I can't recall a past election cycle that has been more divisive or caused people as much stress and anxiety as this one has. And we haven't even made it to election day yet!

I want to encourage you in a couple of specific ways concerning this election. First, I urge you to do your part by casting your vote. In my opinion, we forfeit any right to complain or disagree with our elected leaders if we aren't willing to take part in the election process. So let's all do our part on election day.

Secondly, I want to challenge you to let this election be an opportunity to live out your faith. I hear so many people fretting about what a terrible mess we will be in if President Trump gets re-elected, or how America will be so horribly changed for the worse if Mr. Biden wins. Good Christian people are spending a lot of time worrying over these matters. And I'm not pretending that the outcome of this election doesn't matter. It certainly does. But our hope is not found in a political party or a candidate. Our hope is in Jesus. And He is not in danger of losing power. We should pray diligently for God's will to be done in this election and beyond. But we can trust God with the outcome.

And besides the fact that God is greater than a single election or leader, I also find comfort in knowing that this great republic has withstood the election of all manner of leaders, both good and bad, for over 230 years. And the American republic will still be standing four years from now, whether we elect a democrat or a republican as President.

We need a strong, godly leader in the White House, and those seem to be in very short supply in Washington at this time. But we need not despair. The greatness of America is not defined so much by its leaders, as by its citizens. As much as we need a godly President today, we have an even greater need for godly citizens who are full of faith in God and compassion for others. It's time we stop pointing fingers at our enemies, and pay heed to our Lord's words, "Love your enemies." When "we the people of the United States" stop responding out of fear and hate, and start demonstrating true faith, integrity and compassion, America will find itself once again on a firm footing.

So regardless of who wins on election day, let's be bold to daily declare the greatness of

## November 2020 Special Dates

- Nov. 3: Election Day
- Nov. 1-4: 242 Group Off Week
- Nov. 8: Connection Class (4:00 pm)
- Nov. 11: Veterans' Day
- Nov. 15-23: Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection Week
- Nov. 22-25: 242 Group Off Week
- Nov. 26: Thanksgiving
- Sundays: Adult Bible Study (8:45 am)
- Mondays: Discovery Group (7:00)
- Wednesdays: Youth Group (6:00)
- Thursdays: Celebrate Recov-

## Church-wide Bible Reading Plan

- Nov. 1-7:  
Neh. 11-13; Jonah 1-4
- Nov. 8-14:  
Haggai 1-2; Isaiah 6, 40, 53, 58; Prov. 1
- Nov. 15-21:  
Prov. 2-8
- Nov. 22-28:  
Prov. 9-15
- Nov. 29-Dec. 5:  
Prov. 16-22

## Connection Class November 8<sup>th</sup>

Our next Connection Class will be held on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 4-5:30 pm. This class is for anyone new to Freedom and interested in learning more about who we are, where we're headed, and how you can be more involved. You will have the opportunity to meet members of the Freedom Core Team, ask Pastor Mark any questions you might

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is in full swing! Shoeboxes and pamphlets with directions are available in the foyer. There is a box for donations as well. Checks can be made payable to Freedom Church and designated for Operation Christmas Child. Boxes will be built and shipped with money received. Collection week is November 15—23. OCC is a

## Freedom Church Nigeria Update

On Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Nigerian campus of Freedom Church had a special Dedication Day for the newly completed church building. It has only been five months since Freedom Church was launched in Nigeria, but God has done so much in those five months. The building is beautiful, and it was PACKED with adults and children celebrating the goodness of God! The adult worship room can hold approximately 350 people, and the children's ministry wing can accommodate about 200 children. Already, the leadership team in Africa is planning toward a second service



each week due to crowding issues. God is good!



Our Nigerian church campus is located in the community of Mosogar, but it also draws people from two other towns, also located in the Sapele region, near Warri, Nigeria. Because of the great distance that many people are walking to church each week (often in the rain during the months of the rainy season), Pastor Isaiah reiterated the urgent need for some form of church transportation. We are currently raising money to pay for a van or small bus. We now have a little

over \$10,000 raised for a van, but we need an additional \$10,000 in order to purchase an adequate vehicle. Please pray with us about this matter. If you would like to give

## Student Ministry

Freedom youth has welcomed a lot of new faces in the past few weeks, and we're excited to be growing! Masks are still required during the ongoing pandemic. We encourage students to bring their own, but we do have some on hand if ones are misplaced. No events are scheduled for November due to social distancing, but our Wednesday night services are in full swing at Freedom from 6-8 pm. We want to give a big thanks