



True Freedom

Life Within Limits By Tom Landry

MOST successful [football] players not only accept rules and limitations, I believe they need them. In fact, I believe players are free to perform at their best only when they know what the expectations are, where the limits stand.

I see this as a Biblical principle that also applies to life, a principle our society as a whole has forgotten.

You can't enjoy true freedom without limits.

We often resent rules because they limit what we can do. Yet without the rules that define a foot ball game, you can't play the game, let alone enjoy it. The same thing is true in life. To live and enjoy the freedom we have in America, we have to live by the rules of society. To live life to its

fullest and truly enjoy it, we need to understand and abide by the rules God spells out in the Bible. God isn't out to spoil our fun; he knows that life without limits results in anarchy and misery. It's only when we have absolute limits that we can be truly free to enjoy the best life has to offer.

But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:22-23

Registering Now for 2013 in Louisville

Article from NACC website

Each year, the North American Christian Convention provides fellowship, encouragement, support, and new ideas to thousands of Christians from around the country. With workshops, worship, exhib-

its, and fellowship, our focus is building up churches and their members.

We want you to make sure that you do not miss what God will provide at the 2013 NACC. Make your decision

now to register and then mark it on your calendar. We are excited to see how the registration numbers will grow leading up to the NACC, July 9-12, 2013.

The Encourager July 2013

VICTORIOUS 2013

When life seems hopeless, read the end of the story...The

MESSAGE OF REVELATION

On Mirrors By Kathy Bradley

For whatever reason, I was running late and it was time to leave. An earlier cursory glance in the mirror had assured me that I could get by, leaving my hair as it was. Unfortunately that glance had been during toothbrush time wherein I was not completely focused. I had every intention of returning to the mirror for some serious evaluation, but I never got back to it. It wasn't until I viewed my reflection at work that I wished I had spent more time in self-examination in

the privacy of my bathroom. Now everyone could tell without a doubt that I had left home not fully prepared, and that reminder was going to be there for the entire, painfully long day. I should have gazed into the mirror longer and taken corrective measures.

Sometimes – too many times – I neglect to steadily gaze into God's Word long enough to see my true condition and apply the needed corrections before stepping out into

the day. Sometimes – too many times – the fleeting glance I give offers the illusion that I'm just fine the way I am, no changes needed. And sometimes – too many times – I'm out into life for realized – well, it's not a pretty picture. More time looking deeply into His Word ahead of time would save a lot of regret later. Live and learn... And learn... And learn... "but the one who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues... This one will be blessed." James 1:25



VBS Needs Your Help!!

Parents and volunteers needed

July 15th—19th grades 1-6

July 22—26, preschool

*Sign up in the Life Center today
or see Benita Wagner, 342-6907*

Through every twist, turn, and dive, Colossal Coaster World will challenge kids to face their fears and trust God. With excitement around every curve, kids learn that God has given them a spirit of power, love, and sound judgment. This VBS is the ultimate ride.

Our Flag's Star Spangled History

On a rainy September 13, 1814, British warships sent a downpour of shells and rockets onto Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor, relentlessly pounding the American fort for 25 hours. The bombardment, known as the Battle of Baltimore, came only weeks after the British had attacked Washington, D.C., burning the Capitol, the Treasury and the President's house. It was another chapter in the ongoing War of 1812.

A week earlier, Francis Scott Key, a 35-year-old American lawyer, had boarded the flagship of the British fleet on the Chesapeake Bay in hopes of persuading the British to release a friend who had recently been arrested. Key's tactics were

successful, but because he and his companions had gained knowledge of the impending attack on Baltimore, the British did not let them go. They allowed the Americans to return to their own vessel but continued guarding them. Under their scrutiny, Key watched on September 13 as the barrage of Fort McHenry began eight miles away.

"It seemed as though mother earth had opened and was vomiting shot and shell in a sheet of fire and brimstone," Key wrote later. But when darkness arrived, Key saw only red erupting in the night sky. Given the scale of the attack, he was certain the British would win. The hours passed slowly, but in the clearing

smoke of "the dawn's early light" on September 14, he saw the [American flag](#)—not the British Union Jack—flying over the fort, announcing an American victory.

Key put his thoughts on paper while still on board the ship, setting his words to the tune of a popular English song. His brother-in-law, commander of a militia at Fort McHenry, read Key's work and had it distributed under the name "Defence of Fort M'Henry." The *Baltimore Patriot* newspaper soon printed it, and within weeks, Key's poem, now called "The Star-Spangled Banner," appeared in print across the country, immortalizing his words—and forever naming the flag it celebrated.

Lyrics to the National Anthem

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen, thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines in the stream;
'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner, Oh long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust"
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!





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 Sign up for our
NEWSLETTER @
occsecretary@comcast.net

We Exist to

- ...celebrate God's Presence through Worship. (Jn 4:23-24)
- ...communicate God's Word through Evangelism. (Rom 10:13)
- ...demonstrate God's Love through Ministry. (Jn 13:35)
- ...educate God's People through Discipleship. (Eph 4:11-13)
- ...unite God's People through Fellowship. (1 Jn 1:3)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Willard Smith | 15 Corbin Whipker |
| Eric Kerkhof | 16 Hannah Perry |
| 2 Mary Clipp | 17 John Hundley |
| 3 Sarah Shewmake | 18 John & Sharon Kropack |
| Jessy Meek | 19 Kaden Brooks |
| 4 Cody Faulkner | 20 Shelby Hutchinson |
| Cathy Wichman | 21 Brian T. Wichman |
| Margaret King | 22 Julie Mize |
| 5 Gina Humbel | 23 Gary Hamblen |
| Mickey Brown | 24 Danielle Michael |
| Mandy Rushing | Alex Barnett |
| 8 David Petro | 25 Drema Wright |
| 9 Dennis Murphy | Wayne Roller |
| Courtney Faulkner | 27 Laina Kimmett |
| Billie Newman | Alicia Weaver |
| Janis Surenkamp | 28 Ethan Johns |
| Harold & Shirley Hutchinson | Zachery Johns |
| 10 Kenny Shuck | Zech Riggs |
| Kerry Compton | 29 Shirley Hutchinson |
| 11 Marty & Drema Wright | 30 Matthew & Carmen Senesac |
| 11 Paul Nay | 31 Benita Wagner |
| 12 Dustin & Alicia Mullins | |
| 14 Dot Yeaton | |
| Kade Senesac | |



EVENTS

- ◆ 4th of July: Independence Day!
- ◆ 15th—19th: VBS Grade School week
- ◆ 21st: Pizza Party after service
- ◆ 22nd: August newsletter deadline
- ◆ 22nd—26th: VBS PreK week