

The Lowedown

An update on the life and ministry of Dave & Jennifer Lowe



Freedom.

It's something I've been thinking about a lot lately. Probably because our family just spent 5 days in Washington, D.C. on our first real vacation in 3 years.

As we walked around the city, touring the museums and visiting the many monuments, it was a reminder to me that we live in a pretty incredible country, where we're free to pursue our vocational and financial dreams as well as express our religious convictions.

Seeing the World War II, Korean and Vietnam War memorials was a reminder to me that many have given their lives fighting not only to maintain our freedom but to secure the freedom of others.

Seeing the Lincoln Memorial was a reminder that not everyone in our country has always experienced the same level of freedom.

And seeing the spot where Martin Luther King gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, coupled with the tragic events we've witnessed in our country over the past few weeks and months is another reminder to me that the struggle for freedom and justice is ongoing and not always equitable.

We had the chance to visit the site of the Museum of the Bible, which is currently under

The Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. is one of the most popular monuments and is a tribute to the 16th President of the United States who helped abolish slavery in the U.S.

construction and set to open in the Fall of 2017. While we live in a "free" country, it is the Word of God that truly sets us free.

As I think about freedom, God's Word reminds us that we're spiritual creatures on a spiritual journey. Paul said in Ephesians that *"our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."*

What does it mean to really be free?

The popular view in our culture is that freedom means that I've been released to do whatever I want without fear of punishment or remuneration from others, especially the government.

Two views of Freedom The Amplified Life - Part 2

Jesus' picture of freedom is much different. According to God's Word, we become free when we're released from the bondage of sin. We don't become free to **do** whatever we want, but instead we become free to **become** the people God intended.

The Amplified Life is a life of true freedom, where we're free to experience Christ fully and live for Him.

Where the American view of freedom is that the shackles of oppression have been discarded, allowing me to live for myself and do the things that would provide pleasure and satisfaction for myself, the Biblical view of freedom is one in which we've been liberated from the bondage of sin, which frees us to experience God fully and serve Him and others.

The American view of freedom involves external physical forces (such as people and governments) keeping us from the pursuit of our own personal happiness.

The Biblical view of freedom is that there's an internal spiritual problem that keeps us from loving God and others.

Our hope is to become the people God desires us to become and to help Young Professionals experience the Amplified life - one in which **real** freedom is experienced through an authentic, personal relationship with Jesus.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership which give us the **freedom** to pursue the calling which God has given us. We are truly blessed!



Above: The Museum of the Bible is under construction and scheduled to open in the Fall of 2017. Find out more at museumofthebible.org

Below: A sign at the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Love,
Dave & Jen