Welcome to Freedom

We are so happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. We hope you feel God's presence and the love of His people in this place.

If you are a first-time guest, **please fill out a card in the pocket in front of you** and don't forget to pick up your **FREE GIFT** at the Visitor's Desk on your way out. We hope you will join us for more experiences at FREEDOM!

Blessing Box Drive NEXT WEEK!

An amazing number of people on the Eastern Shore come to Freedom's Blessing Box each week to get food for them-



selves and their families. There are few things more biblical or Christian than feeding the hungry in Jesus' name. Due to the high volume of traffic at the Blessing Box, we are seeking to expand our capacity to constantly restock the food cabinet.

We are asking for each family to **please bring one or two non-perishable food items (or essential toiletry items) on the <u>first</u> Sunday of each month.** This will help us provide for people in need throughout the month.

Items may be placed directly in the Blessing Box or dropped off in the foyer before worship. Thank you for helping to make this such an impactful ministry of our church.

New Baptisms Celebrating newness of life!

This month, two people at Freedom Church took the vital step of following Jesus in baptism. Dave Mose and Colton Clark were both baptized on December 15th at the Fairhope Pool. Congratulations to both of you for taking this important step! If you wish to join them in a commitment of faith, email at please us info@myfreedomchurch.net or reach out to a member of our staff.

Calendar

January 5th-11th Week of Prayer for Nigeria

January 6th-8th Young Adult Passion Conference

January 12th Core Team & Small Group Leaders Meeting (3:30)

Small Groups Resume

January 19th Night of Praise (6:00)

Jan. 27th - Feb. 3rd Mission Trip to Nigeria

Giving Statements Please Update Your Address

statements for 2024 contributions All aivina to Freedom Church International will be mailed out by the fourth week of January. Please fill out a Welcome Card with your address on it, even if you have not This will help us update our new moved recently. system. You can also email our Ministry Assistant at joanna@myfreedomchurch.net. If you have anv questions about your statement, feel free to email either Joanna or our Church Treasurer. Mike Sappington, at mikesappington@bellsouth.net. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry!

Bible Reading Plan for 2025

Available Now!

Few habits have the power to change us as much as reading the Bible daily. As we start the new year, why not join us in our church-wide daily Bible reading plan which will take us, one chapter per day, through the entire New Testament and parts of the Old Testament? You can pick up your copies of the 2025 Bible Reading Plan on the foyer table.

PURSUING A PERSONAL CONNECTION WITH JESUS Face to Face (From Fear to Freedom) – Part 5 Matthew 2:1-12 December 29, 2024

3 LESSONS FROM WISE PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO KNOW JESUS:

1. They were intentional in giving their <u>time</u> and <u>energy</u> seeking Jesus.

After Jesus was born, some <u>wise men from the</u> <u>east came to Jerusalem</u>. <u>They asked people</u>, "<u>Where is the child who has been born to be the</u> <u>king of the Jews</u>? We saw the star that shows he was born. <u>We saw it rise in the east and</u> <u>have come to worship him</u>." – Matt. 2:1-2 ERV

"You will seek me and find me <u>when you seek</u> <u>me with all your heart</u>." ...declares the LORD. – Jer. 29:13 NIV

2. They were <u>expectant</u> <u>worshipers</u> rather than just observers.

When the wise men saw the star, <u>they were</u> <u>filled with joy</u>. They came to the house where the child was and saw him with his mother, Mary, and <u>they bowed down and worshiped</u> <u>him</u>. – Matt. 2:10-11a NCV Come, <u>let us sing</u> to the LORD! <u>Let us shout</u> joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.... Come <u>let</u> us worship and bow down. <u>Let us kneel before</u> <u>the LORD</u> our maker, for he is our God. – Psalm 95:1 & 6 NLT

3. They gave generously to express their love for Jesus.

The wise men came to the house where the child was with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then <u>they opened</u> <u>the boxes of gifts they brought for him</u>. <u>They</u> <u>gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and</u> <u>myrrh</u>. – Matt. 2:11 ERV

"Your heart will be where your treasure is." – Matt. 6:21 NCV

FREEDOM CHURCH INTERNATIONAL Loving God. Loving Feople. Serving the World.

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Lagos 1 Campus	Pastors Alex & Favour
Lagos 2 Campus	Pastors Francis & Perfect
Idah 1 CampusPast	ors Joseph, Joel, and Simon
ldah 2 Campus	Pastors Phillip and Attah

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