

FREEDOM
PART 1 ~ THE TREE OF LIFE
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The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil is rooted in **self-reliance** and **independence** from God.

- Genesis 3:4-5 [NKJV]

The Tree of Life is rooted in **relationship with** and **dependence upon** God.

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil leads to a **performance based** relationship.

- Being right with God is based on **your effort**.
- Genesis 3:7,21 [NLT]
- It says keep you have to keep trying to get **God's approval**.

The Tree of Life leads to an **identity based** relationship.

- John 1:12-13 [NLT]
- Receive the fact that He already loves you.
- Romans 5:8

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil says, **obey out of duty**.

The Tree of Life says, **obey out of delight**.

- I John 5:3,12 [NKJV]

Living From the Tree of Life: Four Responses

1. Fall in love **with Jesus**.

- Ephesians 3:18-19 [NLT] And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and deep his love is
- John 14:15 [INIV] If you love me, you will obey what I command.
- I John 4:19 [NKJV]

2. Serve God through **relationship** not **rules**.

- Colossians 3:23 [NLT] Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people

3. Respond to all sin with **life** .

- Romans 8:1 [NIV] Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- John 8:9-11[NIV]
 - Grace - "neither do I condemn you"
 - Truth - "go now and leave your life of sin"

4. Guard your **heart** from going back to the wrong tree.

- Proverbs 4:23 [NLT] Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.