

## Thought for the Day – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### Freedom – by Revd Kit Gunasekera

I was intrigued to how many references to freedom there was in the newspaper headlines yesterday, as they reported the 4 stage easing of lockdown restrictions.

What do you think freedom is?

For many of us, the restrictions have felt like being held prisoner, and for many others, the enforced change, as brought a sense of freedom from the daily grind.

Have the restrictions taken away our freedom, or kept us safe to enjoy our freedom once we get on top of the current difficulty.

Leaving Covid aside, there are of course people, in our country, do not feel free. To be who they were created to be. To live the life they would like to. To be as free as others. In churches. In our institutions.

There are people around the world, who are unjustly, literally, held prisoner. Dismantling all forms of discrimination and prejudice must be at the heart of Christian mission.

I have heard of some in prison, who have said they felt free because of their faith.

Jesus said:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free..." - Luke 4:18

and also:

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" - John 8:36

That is a promise for now.

Is freedom found in our minds? In our spirit?

What does it mean to you for the Son to set you free?