



I. INTRO

- A. History of July 4th
- B. My July 4th History
- C. Looking back
 - We didn't read the directions
 - If we did it wouldn't have mattered
 - Someone could have gotten hurt
 - While celebrating freedom we misused freedom

II. If you can misuse a bottle rocket, you can misuse freedom.

- If you can misuse freedom, you can misuse your life

III. How can you make sure you use freedom how it's intended?

- Read the directions

IV. Galatians 5:1 (NIV) ¹ It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

- A. If living in/with freedom was easy, why would we be told to stand firm?

Galatians 5:13 (NIV) ¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

- B. Don't misuse your freedom

Galatians 5:14-15 (NIV) ¹⁴ "... Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

- C. We have the power to build each other up and the power to destroy each other.

V. Galatians 6:10 (NIV) ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.