



WHY CAN'T I DO WHAT I WANT?



#286: What is freedom and what is it for? Freedom is the God-given power to be able to act of one's own accord; a person who is free no longer acts under the influence of someone else. God created us as free men and wills our freedom so that we might decide wholeheartedly in favor of the good, indeed for the greatest "good"—in other words, for God. The more we do what is good, the freer we become.

#287: But doesn't "freedom" consist of being able to choose evil as well?

Evil is only apparently worth striving for, and deciding in favor of evil only apparently makes us free. Evil does not make us happy but rather deprives us of what is truly good; it chains us to something futile and in the end destroys our freedom entirely. Man is freest when he is always able to say Yes to the good. A decision in favor of the good is always a decision leading toward God.

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

Fr. James keller

"I distinctly remember ducking beneath my desk, hoping that the young priest who stood before us didn't mean me!" The idea of "doing some good" made a deep impression. In his teens, he began preparations for the priesthood at St. Patrick's Seminary in California. Fr. Keller did not end up doing missions to China and do what he wanted, but he did make an difference in thousands of peoples lives by listening to God's will.



GOSPEL



ANSWERS

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

- Luke 2: 51

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS: