

“Slave to Free”

The Line #4 - Redemption

INTRODUCTION

This week we turn our attention to our redemption. For some of us the circumstances of our redemption represented an obvious release from slavery and bondage to freedom. For others of us, perhaps those who came to faith when they were young, this isn't the way you relate to salvation. But in fact, each of us who come to faith in Christ, has been taken out of slavery and granted freedom. It is an extraordinary gift, and a costly one. In this study we will find what it means for us to be redeemed.

Ice Breaker (Optional):

Can you share an analogy of redemption that you found particularly striking? (The boy who buys back his sailboat, of the release of the caged bird)

Study Questions (45 MIN)

We are redeemed

Q1. Read Exodus 6:6; Psalm 19:14; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Matthew 20:28

Redemption means to gain possession of something in exchange for payment. Although we typically relate redemption with Jesus, the Old Testament also contains references to redemption. In the book of Exodus, what does God promise His people through Moses in Exodus 6:6? Who did David refer to as his redeemer (Psalm 19:14)? Paul told the believers at Corinth that they were bought with a price, and therefore redeemed. What was the price of our redemption?

We are redeemed by

Q2. Read Psalm 49:7-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Romans 3:25a; Revelation 5:9

Even when we recognize our need for redemption, some might search for a means other than God to pay the cost. What does Psalm 49 tell us about the price for our lives? What is the only thing of sufficient value to pay that price for us (1 Peter 1:18-19)? How does Romans 3:25a tell us the payment for our redemption is received by us? In Revelation 5 there is a chorus proclaiming the worthiness of the Lamb of God, who purchased us, to receive praise, honor and glory. What are some of the ways you can bring God praise, glory and honor?

We are redeemed from

Q3. Read John 8:34; Romans 6:22-23; Romans 8:23; Philippians 3:20-21

We've seen that the blood of Jesus redeems us. And just as the Israelites were slaves to the Egyptians, we too were slaves. What were we slaves to according to John 8:34? Sin is a cruel taskmaster. What were our wages when we were enslaved by sin (Romans 6:23)? For what thing do you groan inwardly while awaiting the redemption of your body (Romans 8:23)? In what way can we expect our bodies to be changed (Philippians 3:20-21)?

We are redeemed for

Q4 Read Romans Galatians 4:5-7; Romans 6:11-14; Titus 2:14

The good news of our redemption becomes even better when we read Galatians 4:5-7! We weren't redeemed simply to release us from the penalty of sin. God had an even more glorious purpose in mind. Galatians 4:5 tells us we were redeemed "so that" we could receive adoption! Our role has changed from slave to what according to Galatians 4:7? With the freedom we have been granted, we have a choice to make. We can choose who we offer ourselves to. What choices are offered to us (Romans 6:11-14)? Paul describes his attitude toward his service to God as being a living instrument for righteousness. How would you describe your level of zeal for good works (Titus 2:14)? What types of serving are you most passionate about?

Wrap-Up

Praise God we have been redeemed from slavery to freedom! We once were slaves to sin but God paid our ransom with the blood of Jesus, granting us even more than our freedom. He gave us sonship and a choice of whom we serve. We now have the joy of doing the good works of righteousness for our Heavenly Father.

Memory Verse

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.
Romans 6:22 NIV

Prayer (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life: _____

Pray for your group members' needs: (see back for more notes)

Challenge: *This week offer yourself to God for his use and see what opportunities He gives you to serve Him through good works.*

Q1

Exodus 6:6 ESV - 6 Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.

Psalms 19:14 ESV - 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ESV - 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Matthew 20:28 ESV - 28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Q2

Psalms 49:7-9 ESV - 7 Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, 8 for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice, 9 that he should live on forever and never see the pit.

1 Peter 1:18-19 ESV - 18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Romans 3:25a NIV – 25a God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood--to be received by faith. ...

Revelation 5:9 NLT - 9 And they sang a new song with these words: "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Q3

John 8:34 ESV - 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.

Romans 6:22-23 NIV - 22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:23 ESV - 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Philippians 3:20-21 ESV - 20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Q4

Galatians 4:5-7 ESV - 5 *to redeem* those who were under the law, *so that* we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Romans 6:11-14 ESV - 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Titus 2:14 ESV - 14 who gave himself [Jesus Christ] for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Prayer Notes cont.
