



Jesus, Our Redeemer Ephesians 1:7-12

We Are in Desperate Need of a Redeemer

Genesis 3, Psalm 53:1-3, Isaiah 53:6, John 8:34, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23

- The 5 Unbiblical Ways We Respond to our Sin
 - Deny: "I didn't do it."
 - Blame: "It is their fault."
 - Excuse: "I know people that have done a lot worse."
 - Hide: "I hope I don't get caught."
 - Repay: "I must punish myself to payback my sin."

"Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one." Psalm 53:3

Jesus Is Our Redeemer Ephesians 1:7a

"In Him, we have the redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses..." Ephesians 1:7a

- *"In Him (Christ)..."* - We have redemption (liberation, freedom, release from sin)
- *"...through his (Jesus') blood..."* - The Law required that everything be cleansed with blood
Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 9:22
- *"...the forgiveness of our trespasses (sin)"* - Greek word for forgiveness is "Aphesis," meaning release from bondage or imprisonment

"There is nothing that haunts the soul like the shame of sin. At the same time there is nothing that liberates the soul like the knowledge and experience of God's forgiveness." - Ray Stedman, 20th century Pastor/Author

The Gift of Being the Redeemed Ephesians 1:7b-12

"...according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished on us." Ephesians 1:7b

- We are recipients of lavish grace (v. 7b-8)
- We are insiders into God's revealed will (v. 9-10)
- We are inheritance receivers (v. 11)
- We are hopeful worshippers that are better together (v. 12)

"We have nothing apart from Jesus. Our wealth of mercy is all in Christ."
- Charles Spurgeon, 19th century British Pastor

Discuss Together:

Based on what you know about Jesus, if He were to visit you today, what would you thank Him for doing in your life?

LifeGroup Discussion:

1. **Read Psalm 53:1-3.** Our greatest need is to be forgiven of our sin. Most people try to deal with their sin in unbiblical ways by denying, blaming others, excusing, hiding, or trying to repay sin on their own. Why do we respond in these ways to sin? Why are none of those ways satisfying responses to sin?
2. **Read Ephesians 1:7.** Jesus is our Redeemer! In the first century the word “redeemer” would be used for someone who bought a slave his/her freedom. Jesus bought our freedom from sin through His shed blood on the cross. How does being forgiven and free from the slavery of sin impact your everyday life (your life at home, at work, with friends etc.)?
3. **Read Ephesians 1:8-12.** God’s grace is lavished upon those who are redeemed. The word lavished might be best illustrated through ocean waves. The waves just keep coming and coming and never stop. God’s forgiveness is like that for those who have been redeemed in Jesus. Share with your LifeGroup an area of your life where you need to stop and recognize that God’s grace is lavished on you and is more than enough. (Example: *In my parenting, I need to stop being so hard on myself and leading in my own strength but instead recognize that God has lavished his grace on me.*)

Next Steps:

1. **Place your faith in Jesus as your redeemer.** Use the booklet in the seat rack in front of you called, “The Way to Connect with God” to help guide you in prayer. You can also pray with someone today during worship or after the service at one of the Prayer Points by the front stage.
2. **The Christian Life isn’t designed to be lived alone. Grow Together by joining a LifeGroup.** Throughout Ephesians Paul uses the words, “we” and “us”. LifeGroups commit to walk through life together; we are better together! Find a new LifeGroup to get connected during today’s LifeGroup Fair in the Lobby after the services. Learn more at calvarylife.org/lifegroups
3. **Have Questions about Following Jesus? Attend the Alpha Course** on Wednesdays through October 18 from 6:30 - 8:30pm in the Lobby. For more info, visit calvarylife.org/alpha
4. **Check out the Reach Fair to find a ministry that you can use your time and talents to serve.** The Reach Fair will be in the Lobby next Sunday, September 27 after morning worship services. calvarylife.org/reach