

MAIN POINT

When you are redeemed in Christ through faith, your old self dies, is buried, and is resurrected with Him. You cease to be a servant of sin, and instead, become a servant of righteousness.

INTRODUCTION

Think about a time of great change or transition in your life. What changed the most? How did the changes that you just described impact your life for the better?

What would you say was the greatest shift in your life when you trusted in Jesus Christ?

Change is fundamental to life. Living organisms that don't change, die. The same could be said for our souls. When we are born, we have inherited the sin of our first father Adam. If nothing changes about the state of our souls, we will eventually die and spend eternity apart from the blessings and presence of God. However, Christians have been redeemed. The word "redeemed" literally means to buy back out of slavery. When Jesus has redeemed us, He has permanently changed our status before God. We no longer relate to God as slaves, but as sons. Today we will explore this fundamental change from slavery to freedom, from death to life, as we process what it means to be redeemed.

DISCUSSION

> READ ROMANS 6:1-11.

What initial question does Paul ask that helps us think about what redemption looks like in our lives? Re-state his question in your own words.

Paul used baptism to explain what was accomplished for you at the cross. How would you explain redemption using baptism?

What is the "new way of life" we are called to walk in (v. 4)? What does this new life look like for you personally?

What did Paul mean that our old selves were "crucified with Christ"? How does being crucified with Christ free us from sin's claims?

How does Christ's death bring us new life? How do we often minimize the effect of this new life in our daily lives?

How can we encourage one another in this group to grab hold of the work that Christ is doing in our lives right now? Where do you see Christ at work in the people of this group?

How does our redemption cause us to take on the character and quality of Christ's life?

How does God view you through Christ? How, then, should you view and treat yourself?

APPLICATION

In light of the redemption you have received in Christ, what needs to change in your life this week? If you have not received this redemption, how do you need to respond?