

Word 3: Redemption Pastor Grant Fishbook May 1 & 2, 2010

re-demp-tion | ri 'demp sh ən |

noun Theology

The work of Jesus to free us from the captivity of sin.

A Redemption Story

Sin was (and is) everyone's problem

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. – Ephesians 2:1-3

Sin owned us

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin..."

— John 8:33-34

Jesus came to redeem us

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

— Romans 3:23-24

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. – *Colossians 1:13-14*

Our freedom cost Jesus his life

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. – 1 Peter 1:18-19

In response to our redemption, we should live differently!

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

- 1 Corinthians 19-20

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. — *Galatians 5:1*

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. — *Titus 2:11-14*

Next Steps

- Sexology Series (for middle school & high school students); Tuesday nights at Doxa and Thursday nights at Flipside. Find out more at doxamovement.com or ctkflipside.com.
- Young Adult Relationship Night on Sunday night, May 23
- Stand Firm (for men) starting Thursday, May 6
- Change Your Family's Future (for men and women). Started on Monday, but it's not too late to join.

Small Group Discussion Questions

- 1) Do you ever redeem coupons? Why or why not?
- 2) Have you ever tried to redeem air miles? Was it easy or hard?
- 3) How do you respond when the Bible calls us slaves to sin?
- 4) In what ways do you live out your redemption on a daily basis?
- 5) What has God rescued you from? Take a few minutes and share about your new life of freedom.
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?