**Sermon Notes**

“More Blessings: Redemption and Revelation”

Ephesians 1:7-10

May 7, 2023

**Growth Group Homework**

For the week of 05-07-2023

Adapted from Karen Hinkley, ed., Life Change Series: Ephesians, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1985, pp. 21-28; Keri Folmar, Grace: A Bible Study on Ephesians for Women, Cruciform Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2015, pp. 21-23; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 268; Lyman Coleman, et.al., eds., Serendipity New Testament for Groups, Serendipity House, Littleton, CO, 1986, p. 366.

**Getting Started:**

1. What are some present-day uses of the idea of ‘redemption’?

**Digging Deeper:**

Read Ephesians 1:7-10.

1. List everything v.7 tells us about our “redemption.”
2. If “redemption” basically means “release by payment,” what are Christians released from? There are at least three different answers to this in the NT. Match each reference to an experience of redemption on the left. Be alert to the timing of each (past, present, future).

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| Release from God’s just wrath, which is the penalty of sin; this release occurred in the past at conversion |  Luke 21:28 Gal. 3:13 Eph 1:7 |
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| Release from the dominating power of sin’s influence in our present life so that we do not have to follow those patterns any more |  Eph. 4:30 Rom. 6:14-22 Rom. 8:23 |
|  |  Titus 2:14 |
| The anticipated future release from the presence of sin, and everything that is defective in us, both body and soul  |  Heb. 9:15 1 Pet 1:18-19 |

In your own words, summarize what you’ve learned about redemption and why it is so important to believers and for God’s plan.

1. Are you in Christ? Have you been redeemed? Have you received forgiveness from God for you transgressions?
2. What do you discover in these verses (Eph 1:7-10) about God’s attitude toward us? Why is this important for you to know – really know?
3. Define “mystery” (v.9) using Rom. 16:25; 1 Cor. 2:7-8; Eph 3:3-10; Col 1:26-27.
4. According to v. 10, what is God’s ultimate plan? Explain in your own words. (Optional: see also Philippians 2:9-11 and Colossians 1:19-20.)
5. How does knowing that one day everything will be united, brought together, and made sense of in Christ …
* impact how you face tragedy?
* motivate your evangelistic efforts?
* warn against vile misbehavior?

**Let’s Pray**