



FLATIRONS
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Shawshank Redemption

Jim Burgen

June 14th, 2026

// **Bible References:** John 8:34, Galatians 5:1, Hebrews 11:1, James 1:2-4

// **Community Question:** If you were wrongfully sentenced to prison, what is one thing you would absolutely need someone to smuggle in for you?

// Discussion Questions

1. Jim talks about how sin is like slavery, where 'what we thought we had chosen now owns us.' What are some examples of things that start as choices but can eventually become chains in our lives?
2. Andy kept hope alive by playing Mozart in his mind while in solitary confinement. What role does hope play in surviving difficult seasons, and how can we 'keep hope alive' when circumstances feel hopeless?
3. The sermon mentioned that Andy had to 'crawl through sewage' to reach freedom. Why is it often necessary to face painful truths about ourselves and our past in order to experience real freedom?
4. According to Hebrews 11:1, 'faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.' How does this definition of faith help us understand the difference between wishful thinking and biblical hope?
5. Jim said that Jesus transforms character gradually over time, not instantly like he healed physical problems. Why do you think God chooses to change our hearts and habits slowly rather than all at once?

// **Challenge:** This week identify one area of your life where you've accepted captivity that Jesus is calling you into freedom from? What is one specific step you will take this week toward that freedom?