

“The Greatest of Rescues”

New Hope Community Church

May 6th, 2018

Colossians 1:13,14

Life Group Meeting

Colossians 1:13,14

QUESTIONS

A. What Every Believer Has Escaped: The Domain of Darkness (13a)

1. **Separated** from the life giving God
2. Inability to **comprehend** spiritual truth
3. Devoid of divine **power** to overcome the darkness of our heart
4. Held **captive** by the one who's purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy
5. Without **hope**, possessing a future of eternal judgment

B. What Every Believer Has Gained: The Kingdom of Christ (13b)

1. **Adopted** — sons and daughters of the living God
2. God has **written** His truth on our heart in the Holy Spirit
3. The **resurrection** power of Christ invades our lives
4. Freedom from bondage, access to the **throne** of God for help
5. Life with eternal purpose and the promise of **heaven**

C. What Jesus Had to Do In Order to Make This Rescue Possible (14)

1. Redemption: The sinner's **release** from slavery to sin and death
 - Ga 3:13 - Christ redeemed us from curse of the Law becoming curse for us
2. Atonement: Christ becoming a **substitute** in our place
 - Is 53:6 - the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him
3. Conversion: A **turning to** God from being turned away from God
 - Ac 15:3 - the power of the message of Jesus was turning people to God
4. Justification: The sinner **declared** righteous rather than guilty
 - Ro 3:21-24 - all fall short of the glory of God, but are justified by grace
5. Forgiveness: The **removal** of guilt by taking away the offense
 - 1 Jn 1:7 - the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin
6. Propitiation: God's holy requirement of perfection **satisfied**
 - 1 Jn 4:10 - God loved us & sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins
7. Reconciliation: **Restoring** the sinner's favor with God
 - Ro 5:10 - while enemies we were reconciled to God through death of Son
8. Regeneration: New **life** given to a soul that has been dead
 - Titus 3:5,6 - a rebirth by the H.S. (Jesus in Jn 3)
9. Sanctification: The sinner **set apart** unto God as holy
 - 2 Co 5:21 / the great exchange! (R 6:22 / 1 C 6:11)

1. Read Colossians 1:13,14
2. As you look at five things that are true under point “A” about living in the domain of darkness, do you remember any of these as being part of your life without Christ, and how it perhaps caused you to feel the need for something more?
3. If an unbeliever is truly held captive by the devil to do his will, what does this look like in practical terms as it plays out in his / her life?
4. Discuss the five things that each believer has gained in the Kingdom of Christ (point “B”). Perhaps each person might share which of these is most meaningful to him / her (difficult to pick just one!).
5. Which of these five things we have gained because of Christ's sacrifice is the most difficult to experience on a day to day basis?
6. Often we do not ponder ALL that had to change about us in order to be rescued from Satan's domain. Read aloud through this list together (point “C”). Perhaps each person might share which of these is most amazing to him / her.
7. One thing that needed to happen is that God's righteous wrath had to be turned away from rebellious sinners who continually spurned His requirements. Which of the nine words speaks to this issue?
8. How is it possible that God can declare a habitual sinner justified?
9. As you pray for each other tonight, also spend time thanking God for specific truths about our miraculous salvation in Jesus that you have been especially touched by in this lesson.