

Sermon Discussion Questions

Redemption

November 4, 2018

1. A.J. Gordon set those birds free and as the story goes, he brought that cage into church the next Sunday, stood it up on the pulpit, told the story and said those birds experienced redemption. Do you have any stories that you can think of where you felt like you were set free—literally (e.g., you were stuck and a group of people came and pushed your car out of the snowbank—you were free)?
2. Jeremy said that every one of us are confined to cages that have three layers to them. Do you remember what those three layers are (cf. Genesis 3:6 and 1 John 2:16)? Do you agree with what Jeremy said, “every one of us are confined to cages”? Why or why not?
 - a. If you are willing to be vulnerable, what have the cages looked like in your life. What do the cages look like today (this one may be hard to be self-aware of, but give it a try)?
3. Experiencing redemption. Hebrews 9:11-12 is probably the clearest explanation of how our redemption was brought about. What do these verses tell us about our redemption? Tell your story of how you felt like God freed you, or is in the process of freeing you.
 - a. Romans 8:1 is a clear statement about our redemption. Read it out loud and talk about the emotions it stirs in you and try and describe why those emotions are there (or not there).
4. The second point Jeremy made in his sermon was that we as Christians ought to encounter redemption on a regular basis; that it should be the process of our Christianity that we know. Unpack together what Titus 2:11-15 has to reveal to us about how Jesus redeems us in our daily walk with Him.
 - a. Name seven reasons Christians don't encounter the Lord's redemption on a regular basis.
 - b. Jeremy said that the way to encounter Christ's redemption on a regular basis is through faith. Although these passages don't all use the word “faith” see if you can understand what they say about faith: Rom. 6:11-14; 1 Cor. 1:30-31; Phil. 3:8-11; Heb. 11:1-2, 6.
 - c. How do we live by faith while not being passive in our relationship with the Lord Jesus?
5. Do you agree or disagree with this statement, “Honestly, I am not looking forward to the Day of Redemption (Ephesians 4:30), because there is so much I want to experience before that day; and what about my kids—they have so much life to live. Jesus, You can wait, don't bring that day yet.” Explain why you agree or disagree with this statement.
 - a. Why is that statement a good statement and why is it not a good statement?