

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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## SERVICE PROJECT

## Sunny Hills Growth Group

week of March 6, 2016

### OPENING QUESTIONS

1. How did you get spending money when you were a kid?
2. What's the biggest bargain you've ever found at a flea market?

### QUICK REVIEW

This week we ... looked at the call of Matthew, beginning a month long study of 'redemption.'

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

In our discussion today we are going to go deeper into the idea of "redemption" found in Romans 3:21-26.

Redemption Definition: the action of regaining or gaining possession of something in exchange for payment, or clearing a debt.

### **Romans 3:21-26 (NLT)**

<sup>21</sup> But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. <sup>22</sup> We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

- What was the “old” way of being made right with God?
- What is the “new” way?
- Which is better?

<sup>23</sup> For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. <sup>24</sup> Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

- What do we all share in common?
- Why is God’s standard ‘glorious’?
- By what authority are we determined to be righteous?
- Is redemption fair?

<sup>25</sup> For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, <sup>26</sup> for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he

declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

- What part, if any, do we play in our redemption?
- What part, if any, does Jesus play in our redemption?

### **APPLICATION**

What problems arise if one could get into Heaven by just being good?

Suppose somebody doesn’t want to believe in Jesus, but still wants to have faith in God ... what options do they have?

When a person realizes they’ve fallen short of a goal, how does he typically respond?

Billy and Suzi are on a pee-wee soccer team. Their team scores 3 goals. The other team scores 5 goals. At the end of the game everyone gets a trophy that says “winner.”

- What do you think about this?
- Is this situation fair?
- What do you think the organizers of the league had in mind calling everyone a “winner” regardless of the score?