

# Redeemed From What, and For What

Growing up as a kid, I remember my mom used to save S&H Green Stamps that she would get at the store when she made a purchase. You could save these up until you had enough to exchange them for something of value. She always let us kids put them in booklets provided by the stores. We would get so excited with anticipation, hoping to a have a sufficient number of them to fill a booklet, or more, so that she could redeem them for a new toaster, dishes or something that she considered of value that was being offered. In thinking about this memory from my childhood, it clearly was a secular meaning of "redeeming or redemption". Being older now, and having accepting Christ in my life, the meaning of "redemption" has a considerably more important meaning of value beyond words.

When I think about redemption today - redeem from what, what was given in exchange for what - my heart is overwhelmed by the answers I find in God's Word.

Romans 5:6-8, gives us an idea what we are redeemed from: "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners. Christ died for us." (NIV)

Paul continued to say in verse 10, "For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!" This reconciliation was only possible "by the death of His Son" on the cross.

Was this reconciliation really necessary, and why? Yes, because we were enemies of God because our sinfulness. We are all in need of redemption from the death penalty, which was brought on us by our sins. Romans 3:22-24: "This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of <sup>24</sup>and glory of God, all justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Jesus" (NIV); and Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (NIV) Jesus paid the price for our release from sin and its consequences. Matthew 20:28: "just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (NIV) His death was in exchange for our life. We were being held slaves to sin; He paid the ransom for you and me. He purchased our freedom.

In our walk with God, we will find many benefits of redemption in His Word. Here are

a few of the benefits, starting with the verse in John 3:16 that I learned as a child.

<u>Eternal life</u> "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (NIV)

<u>Forgiveness of sins</u> Ephesians 1:7: "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." (NIV)

<u>Deliverance from sin's bondage</u> Titus 2:11-14: "For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good." (NIV)

Adoption into God's family Galatians 4:4-6: "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." (NIV)

In closing, I don't know if I will ever be able to totally, really understand what price Jesus paid for redeeming us. I know that Jesus suffered excruciatingly in giving His life for us on Calvary. I

know that He loved us more than I will ever be able to humanly comprehend. I also know that the Father suffered in this redemption, because He had to endure the suffering of His one and only Son, Jesus Christ. Can you imagine, as a parent, the suffering that our Father must of endured seeing His Son on the cross? Jesus took on our sins in His body that hung on that cross so that we might die to sin and live righteously. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:22-24 (NIV)

I recently came across this simple, but very true, statement that C.S. Lewis wrote: "the Son of God became a man to enable man to become sons of God."

This is a love and redemption beyond measure for you and me.

In His Service, Phyllis



# Sonnect

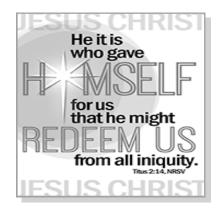
Published by:

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# **TLC**

**Together Loving Christ** 

Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

**J**oin with us in our **Adult Study Group** at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

## Grow in the Word!

# Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Kid's Rock available for children ages five to nine Nursery Services Provided



## "Christ is Risen"

Easter Sunday. April 1st, 10:45 a.m. At Sunny Place Church

Come join us to worship and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!



Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



# Minutes of the Elder's Meeting - March 7, 2017

<u>Attendees</u>: Attended by Pastor Pete Weber, Tim Kasza, Sam Jacob, Bob Hettlinger, Glenda Kasza, Phyllis Clark and Nona Koivula

<u>Devotion and prayer</u>: **Jude:20-25** "But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them, to others show mercy, mixed with fear-hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh. To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy, to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

#### **Ministry Reports:**

<u>Treasurer</u>: Budgeted Bank Balance \$756.38; Giving \$9,049.19; Expenses \$19, 934.87 expenses for Feb. include a payment on the loan for the parking lot.

Worship: There is an Easter Cantata planned and rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6pm.

Hospitality & Encouragement: Ministry work continues

<u>Missions</u>: The Missions Festival is planned for May 5-6. Our guest missionaries will be Ernie and Lori Nichols from KIST.

<u>Prayer & Devotion</u>: There have been numerous prayer chain requests which have been distributed on a timely basis. Praise our Lord. Thank you Margaret.

Stewardship & Support Services: Work day planned for March 17 and the Work Camp will be August 2, 3 and 4<sup>th</sup>.

<u>Ladies Ministry</u>: There will be a CWC event for Northern III churches Saturday, April 7 held at the Restoration Church of God in Aurora, IL The Ministry will celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, April 28th with a High Tea for all ladies.

<u>Men's Ministry</u>: The outing to the Auto Show on February 17th, was a good fellowship activity. <u>Evangelism and Outreach</u>: The Senior Luncheons continue on the second Saturday of each month and there will be a guest from PADS at the March 11 Ministry meeting <u>Fellowship</u>: There is a trip planned to the Creation Museum in Kentucky. Hotel reservations have been made, please contact Kim to book hotel rooms. The dates are June 24, 25, 26 & 27.

<u>Pastoral Counseling</u>: Sam Jacob continues this ministry.

#### Old and New Business:

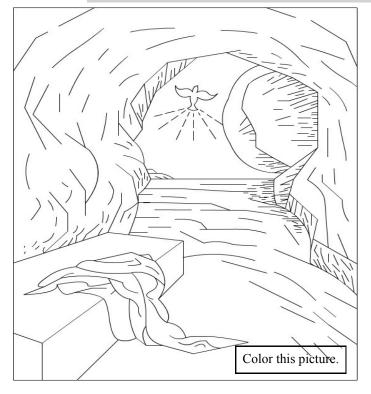
- Addison Township Food Pantry, volunteers are being submitted by several churches in the area. The pantry will open soon.
- Elder Ministry team assignments will be discussed at the Elder's Retreat.
- Elders Retreat April 7th.

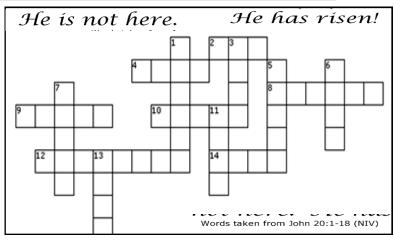
Next Elder's meeting, April 7th, 9 am at Cantigny.



# Alleluia!, Alleluia! - Jesus Lives

and His apostles were in the of Gethsemane, wicked men came and took Him away. And at a place called Calvary, they crucified 4 prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they between two thieves. From the know not what they do." Later 4 vried, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." and bowed His head and died. The death of 4 made the loved Him very sad. His body was taken to a After wrapping Him in white fine linen, He was tenderly laid in the was rolled in front of the entrance to the be sealed. 🖔 were also ordered to stand put to death asked that the , is kept watch. Then before and the lay in the guard. For two days A rcame and rolled the of the third day an I



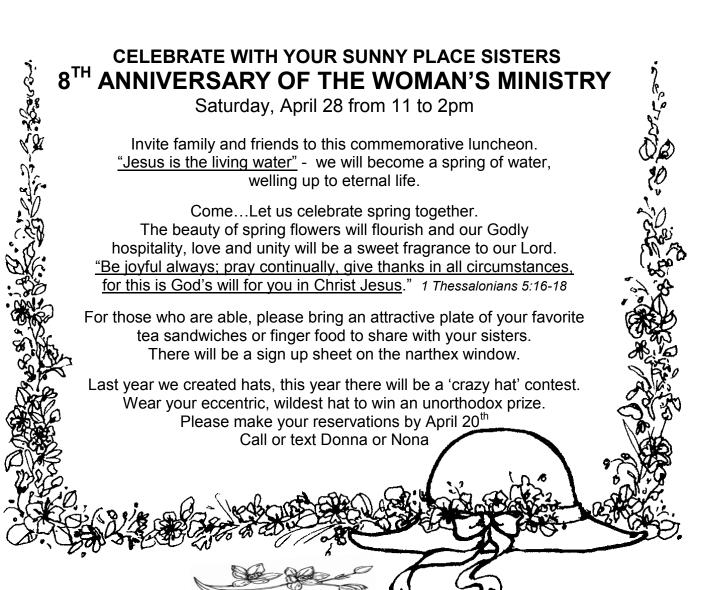


#### **ACROSS**

- To shed tears.
- 4. The opposite of alive.
- 8. A heavenly being.
- 9. The thing that covered the entrance to Jesus' tomb.
- The color that is the opposite of black.
- 12. A person who takes care of plants and flowers.
- 14. The name of the woman who discovered Jesus' empty tomb.

#### DOWN

- 1. The male parent.
- 3. Return to an upright position after lying down; to return from the dead.
- 5. The opposite of late.
- 6. A period of seven days.
- 7. An adult female person.
- 11. A place where someone is buried; another name for grave.
- 13. The opposite of light.



# **Christian Women Connection** "Slaying your Giants" Conference

Saturday, April 7th
From 9am to 2pm
Restoration Church of God
1460 W. Indian Trail Road, Aurora, IL

\$20 fee for lectures, Continental breakfast and lunch.

The Giants women face, can be depression, anxiety, abuse loneliness, and rejection.

The conference will provide spiritual weapons to defeat those taunting Giants.

For registration contact: Julie Austin – 708-646-4185



Please join us for a free Senior Luncheon!

Come be our guest for food, great speakers and activities. Free event for Seniors 55 & up. Space is limited so register now at 630/398-2314



## AFTERNOON OF PRAYER

LIGHT LUNCH FOLLOWING

Sunday, April 15th 12:30 p.m. At Sunny Place Church

Come be a part of the plan that God has for us as participants, to pray for each and serve all of His children and their needs.

Then join us for lunch and fellowship.
All are welcome.

## **Sunday School Line-Up**

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

## Adult Bible Study

# "Difficult Texts"



The Scriptures that you may have wondered about, or wrestled with.

Led by John Gryparis

## Children's Classes

Led by Carla Weber

Nursery services are provided

# Thursday Evenings 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place



# "Making Your Calling and Election Sure"

A Bible Study Through 1st & 2nd Peter

Led by Pastor Pete







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
"Christ is Risen" Easter Cantata 10:45 a.m. at Sunny Place	2	3	4	Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	6	7 Elder's Retreat 9:00 a.m. at Cantigny  CWC Connection 9:00 a.m. Aurora, IL
Mission's Meting 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	9	10	11	Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	13	Second Saturday Senior Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Sunny Place
Afternoon of Prayer, light lunch following 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	16	17	Stewardship Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	20	21
Worship Get-Together 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	23	24	25	Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	27	Women's Ministry 8th Anniversary Celebration Tea 11:00 a.m. at Sunny Place
29	30					