

Message Notes:

Byron began his message with a parable about a skylark that becomes addicted to the worms offered by a vendor who requires giving up one feather for each transaction. The bird eventually becomes “featherless and fat” — entrapped.

This is the setup for the scriptural passages for the day:

- Ephesians 2:1-3 — being “spiritually dead” due to obsessively pursuing sin until it enslaves.
- Titus 3:3 — how foolish disobedience toward God (along with sinful and satanic deception) leads to enslavement and sadness.

Next, Byron will develop the enslavement theme with three examples:

- A sadly addicted woman named Cynthia
- A family that becomes addicted to anger, hatred, and bitterness.
- A story from Soren Kierkegaard about his family’s domesticated geese who became addicted to the “mediocrity of the barnyard.”
- In other words, there is more than one kind of addiction.

The message closes with the apostle Paul’s recurring statement — “but God...” — who saves and delivers us.

- Ephesians 2:4-5, 8-10
- Titus 3:4-5
- A call to receive the gospel of Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

Listen to Byron’s “parable of the skylark” then think about how it might apply to some aspect of your life.

- What aspect of your life looks most like an unhealthy or even sinful addiction? How much has it “entangled you?”

Ephesians 2:1-3; Titus 3:3 — Have you ever felt spiritually dead because of sin in your life?

- How do verses Eph 2:4-10 and Titus 3:4-5 address your struggle?
- Spend some time reading and applying the above verses to your life. Pray specifically for each promise contained therein.