Live Forgiven Eph. 1:7-10

SERMON SUMMARY:

Studying the concepts of the New Testament, without understanding the mindset of the Jews, causes us to miss the depth of Scripture. In week two of our study of Ephesians, we come to a very important passage about what Jesus has done for us. But in order to understand it, we must take a journey back to what the first century Jews knew and understood. By doing this, we will come to understand and apply what it means that Jesus has made the way for forgiveness.

SERMON OUTLINE:

In order to understand the depth of this passage, we must first understand the mindset of the Jews.

Key Concept: Holiness

Refers to God's existence as <u>completely separate</u> from his creation and, at the same time, his <u>pure</u> and utterly incorruptible nature.

What God Has Done

God's Blessings: Redemption, through blood, that leads to forgiveness.

Redemption: The release of people, animals, or property from bondage through the payment of a price.

Forgiveness: The release, on the part of the creditor or offended party, of any expectation that a <u>debt</u> will be <u>repaid</u> or that an offender will receive punishment for an offense.

God's Mysterious Will, Revealed

God's grand purpose is to undo Eden by uniting heaven and earth.

Application

- 1) Be forgiven
- 2) Extend forgiveness
- 3) Rejoice

THINK ABOUT IT/TALK ABOUT IT:

- Name a movie that you would have a completely different experience watching if you did not know what it was referencing.
- Why is holiness a key concept?
- Reflect on what God has done for you. Does this motivate you to grow as a deeper disciple of Jesus? Why?
- In what way[s] is God inviting you to apply this passage?
 - Do you need to be forgiven of your sins? What questions do you have about receiving Jesus?
 - Is God prompting you to forgive? Who in your life is God wanting you to release? And if this is hard, what would Jesus be saying to you right now?
 - Is God drawing you into rejoicing? In what ways can you practice gratitude because of what Jesus has done for you this week?