# Signed, Sealed, Delivered

#### I. Announce:

- A. Welcome those online.
- B. Slide1 Community Group Sign Ups are Starting: We have **groups** for people from **all ages and stages** to join. From Sept *until* Thanksgiving. It consists of **sharing** and **praying** together while discussing the Sunday message. Register online/app.
- C. Slide2 MOMs Ministry is starting back up in September: Registration will open Thurs, Aug 21st. Geared toward mothers of children 5 and under. 2 Thursdays a month, encourage one another, grow in faith, and walk our mission as moms with purpose, and community. Childcare is provided. Register online/app.
- D. Slide3 Men's Grill & Chill: Join us for our 5th Annual Grill and Chill on Aug 19, 6:30pm. Guys are bringing their classic & unique cars. BBQ. Suggested donation of \$15 at the door. Register your car online/app.
- E. Slide4 GriefShare: We offer GriefShare twice a year. Starting our Fall sessions Sun, Aug 17th. It's a video, workbook, and discussion format that features experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. It's a 13-week grief support group. Register online/app.
- F. Slide5 Calvary Kids Volunteers Needed. We are looking for **fall volunteers** to serve in Calvary Kids as **teachers** and **assistants** in the **nursery**, for <u>all classes</u> **starting on September 7th.** Please contact **Jasmine** for more info.
- G. Slide6 Prayer: Sorry for going late last week.
- II. Slide7a Intro: Signed, Sealed, Delivered (I'm yours!) Stevie Wonder. 7b left off Ohh baby here I am.
  - A.Last week: we looked at what was *Planned by the Father* (we were Elected, Adopted, Accepted). This week we'll look at how *the rest of the Trinity* was at work.
    - 1. Purchased & Preserved. Purchased by the Son & Preserved by the Sp.
  - B. Slide7cHere Paul drew *past*, *present*, *and future* together. And he looked at the work of each of the Persons of the Godhead as it relates to you and me.

- God the Father, in eternity past, <u>chose</u> us in Christ to be holy and blameless. He <u>predestined</u> us to be <u>adopted</u> as sons, pouring out His grace on us in Christ.
- 2. God the Son, in history past, <u>redeemed</u> us through His <u>blood</u>, bringing us <u>forgiveness</u> and lavishing on us gifts of wisdom and understanding. Even now we are <u>included in Christ</u>, and looking forward to the <u>complete fulfillment</u> of God's plan and the glory that fulfillment holds for us.
- 3. God the Holy Spirit, **Now too** we have been <u>sealed</u> by God's gift of the Holy Spirit, the living <u>quarantee</u> of our <u>inheritance</u> to come.
- C. Slide8,9a Salvation is not something we earn, it's <u>all God's doing</u>. Let's look together at Paul's emphasis here, painting a picture of just how much God has done for <u>us</u> in Christ. 9b [redemption bought grace caught God's plan taught our inheritance taut our life locked]

# III. Slide 10a 1 REDEMPTION BOUGHT (7)

- A. First, forgiveness literally is a formal release from an obligation or debt.
  - 1. Oswald Chambers said, Forgiveness is the divine miracle of grace.

    The cost to God was the Cross of Christ. My Utmost For His Highest, 11/20.
    - a) He continued, Once you realize all that it cost God to forgive you, you will be held as in a vise, constrained by the love of God [beautiful tension]
    - b) A vise having 2 parallel jaws (1 fixed, the other movable). [on the fixed side His grace, on the other arm His cost]
- B. Imagine being locked in a prison cell for a crimes you <u>did</u> commit. You have no way out, *your hands are tied, your future is bleak*. Then, in a flash, someone comes in, **pays** the **full penalty**, and **sets** you **free**. That's what Jesus did for us.
  - 1. He paid our debt in full with His own blood, and now we are free.
- C. Slide 10b 3 main words for *redemption*:
  - 1. Agorazo (ἀγοράζω) buy **in** the market.
  - 2. Exagorazo (ἐξαγοράζω) buy **out of** the market.
  - 3. Lutroo (λυτρόω) to **set free** never to be bought again.

- a) Slide10c \*But the Greek word used here for redemption is apo-lutrosis (ἀπολύτρωσις) *full redemption*. Referring to the act of paying to free a slave for good.
- 4. So remember ... we were slaves to sin then Christ *purchased us*, *delivering us*, *loosing us*, and here *setting us completely free* from what? from the **penalty** and **power** of sin.
  - a) Again our forgiveness is complete and total, not because of what we've done, but because of what Christ has done.
- D. Slide10d Question: How does knowing *Jesus paid the full price for all your sins*, change the way **you view** your <u>past</u> mistakes?

# IV. Slide11a 2 GRACE CAUGHT (8)

- A. His Grace, which He **lavished** upon us showered, caused to overflow or abound.
  - 1. Yesterday I was helping Jules and Joey in painting in a coloring book. My OCD starting helping Julian, "only dip the tip, that will help you from going out of the lines" (he's 5!). He tried it and said, *Grandpa, sometimes I like a lot of paint, and smear it all around.* I said ok. So does God when He paints grace into our lives. He purposely doesn't want to color in the lines. He wants grace to splash all over your life.
- B. Slide11b In Nepal down the street from my hotel is a hidden park called *Garden of Dreams*. Each trip at least once I'll go there and *sit and pray, do my devo's, people watch*, it's a beautiful garden. I sit near **a fountain** *that never stops*, water spilling over, overflowing into everything around it.
  - 1. That's the **grace** of God. He doesn't just forgive; He pours wisdom, insight, and blessings into our lives **beyond** what we could ever ask or think; or imagine or dream up; or invision or could hope.
- C. God's grace is more than enough, constantly *overflowing* in our lives.
- D. Slide11c Question: How can you **intentionally live** in the abundance of God's grace *rather than* living as if you <u>have to earn it</u>?

- V. Slide12a 3 GOD'S PLAN TAUGHT (9-10) mystery concealed / now revealed
  - A. Eg: Christ was seen in the OT as, The Passover lamb. But in the NT is a quantum leap in the redemptive picture, John pointing to Jesus & saying, behold the lamb. (so clear)
  - B. Slide12b Question: How does trusting God's long-term plan help you navigate uncertainty and challenges today?

# VI.Slide13a 4 OUR INHERITANCE TAUT / tight (11-12)

- A. Imagine being adopted into the richest, most secure royal family. You now have full rights, titles, and inheritance that can never be taken away. That's what God has done for us, through Christ, we are His children and heirs of *ALL His promises*.
- B. Inheritance refers to our *complete experience* of our salvation that God promises to us ... but which we have yet to receive in *full*. (upon Christ's return)
- C. Our **identity** and **future** are <u>safe</u> because God has secured them in Christ.
- D. Slide13b Question: How might understanding your identity in Christ affect the way you make decisions, treat others, or handle setbacks?

# VII.Slide14a 5 OUR LIFE LOCKED/SEALED (13-14) Life Lock theft protection

- A. Finally, picture a royal letter sealed with an unbreakable stamp. Once it's sealed, nothing can undo it. That's what the Holy Spirit does for us. When we hear the word of truth, and believe in Christ, *the Spirit* seals us, guaranteeing the inheritance God has promised. [note *the way of salvation*: heard, believed, sealed]
  - 1. The sinner hears the *Word of Truth*, believes/trusts in Christ, receives the Holy Spirit, and is sealed forever. The HS becomes a special seal on our heart at the moment of our salvation! (signed, sealed, delivered I'm yours!)
- B. A true believer loosing their salvation? The seal, that is sealed on our soul, is an indelible mark that reads... Child of God! (Julian wanted black dots on his coloring page. The paint was to splotchy. I said, use this Indelible Marker. As soon as I handed it to a 5 yr old, I added, be really careful, it is so good it will never come off your shirt. I over sold it. He said, I better not use it. I said, no no you can!).

- 1. Paul didn't over sell this concept to us, the seal, that is sealed on our soul, is an indelible mark that reads... Child of God!
- C. The Spirit is *God's unbreakable seal*, assuring us that what <u>God</u> has **begun** in us, <u>He</u> will **complete**.
- D. This HS is our guarantee/pledge/a down payment w/a guarantee of more to come.
- E. Slide14b Question: In what ways can <u>you</u> rely on the Spirit's presence to guide, protect, and encourage <u>you</u> this week?

# F. Wrap Up:

- G. Our story: our redemption, forgiveness, inheritance, and security are all God's doing through Jesus Christ. Every blessing we have flows from Him. Every promise is secure because *He has done it all*, and the Spirit confirms it.
- H. Slide 15 Let this sink in tonight: It's all God's doing It's all in Christ and it's all guaranteed. Our Response? Live like it, worship like it, and share it like it's the best news anyone could ever hear .... because ... (?) IT IS!
- I. Keywords: redemption, grace, inheritance.