

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 4:1-7

¹What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. ²He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. ³So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. ⁴But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

SERMON

Gary Purdy

"FREEDOM! from slavery"

OUR FATHER KNOWS OUR WEAKNESSES

All: Father, you have called us sons and daughters, but we are filled with unbelief. You call us sons and daughters but we do not live in this identity. You call us sons and daughters, but we live as if we are orphans so often trying to earn your favor. Forgive us, faithful, loving, Father.
(silent confession)

AND FORGIVES OUR SINS

Romans 8:15-17

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

WE REJOICE IN HIS LOVE

"How Deep The Father's Love For Us"

BENEDICTION

*Next week's scripture: Galatians 4:8-20
For announcements go to our website at www.northshore1.org
North Shore Fellowship office: 423-266-3757
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March 7, 2010

North Shore Fellowship

Welcome to North Shore Fellowship on this third Sunday in Lent – a forty day season of preparation and repentance during which Christians anticipate Good Friday and Easter. We worship our Savior for his suffering and resurrection, and we worship our Heavenly Father who gave his only Son that we might become adopted sons and daughters.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

"Children of the Living God"

Children of the living God, come and sing, sing out loud;
children of the living God, sing to the Living God!

Sing of the wonders he has made, bird in flight, falling rain;
sing of the wonders he has made, sing to the living God!

*Chorus: How he loves us with great love he who sits enthroned above,
for our lives he spilled his blood sent his spirit like a flood.
Children of the Living God, sing to the living God.*

Sing of his gentle healing hands, how they found the lowliest man;
sing of his gentle healing hands, sing to the living God!

Sing of the mercy that he gives, though we sin, he forgives;
sing of the mercy that he gives, sing to the living God! *(chorus)*

Sing for the morning when he comes, in the clouds, glorious son;
sing for the morning when he comes, sing to the living God! *(chorus)*

REMINDER OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

INVOCATION

WE WORSHIP OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Leader: All who thirst come to the water.

Come, all who are weary;

Come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

**All: The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us,
And our holy and gracious Heavenly Father beckons and blesses us.
Drink deeply of these living waters.
Lord, open our lips, and our mouths shall declare your praise.
Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.**

"O Worship the King"

“Salvation Belongs to Our God”

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

WE OFFER HIM OUR GIFTS

“Grace Is Gold”

See the bright bird dancing in Papua New Guinea on your TV screen.
He’s on a promenade to show the world the fortune he’s made.

Black beetles’ wings and a pile of petals – polished, stacked and clean.
The adornments of the day. You want to laugh, but you know this game.

You can see his fortune’s fate. How the skins will wither and the colors fade.
We bargain and we plead with failing currencies,
but grace is gold for broken banks to hold. Don’t let it hide.

What have you to boast of? How do you introduce yourself?
What trophies, degrees or hyperboles do you line upon your shelf?
What then are you hiding? What sores do you conceal?
Despite your convictions your crippling addictions may lead to a better deal.

If you’re afraid we’ll see inside through your hardened scars and wounds so wide.
Everybody lacks. Don’t cover up the cracks.
Grace is gold for broken banks to hold. Don’t let it hide.

You want to be the bright bird, proud and true? Hey, I did too. I did too.
Who could ever guess that the thorn in your side is drilling a well of life?

So as these tendencies will linger, tie this tightly around your finger:
You are made of clay – gone tomorrow, but here today.
And grace is gold that never grows old.
God’s grace is gold for broken banks to hold.
Don’t let it hide. Don’t let it hide.

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 3:26-29

²⁶You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

SERMON

“FREEDOM! from slavery”

Gary Purdy

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER ADOPTS US TO BE HIS CHILDREN

Leader: How is justification an act of God’s free grace?

All: Although Christ, by his obedience and death, did make a proper, real, and full satisfaction to God’s justice in the behalf of them that are justified; yet inasmuch as God accepts the satisfaction from a surety, which he might have demanded of them, and did provide this surety, his own only Son, imputing his righteousness to them, and requiring nothing of them for their justification but faith, which also is his gift, their justification is to them of free grace.

What is adoption?

Adoption is an act of the free grace of God, in and for his only Son Jesus Christ, whereby all those that are justified are received into the number of his children, have his name put upon them, the Spirit of his Son given to them, are under his fatherly care, admitted to all the liberties and privileges of the sons of God, made heirs of all the promises, and fellow heirs with Christ in glory.

- from the Westminster Larger Catechism

“He Knows My Name”

I have a Maker. He formed my heart.
Before even time began, my life was in his hands.

*Chorus: He knows my name.
He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls
and he hears me when I call.*

I have a Father. He calls me his own.
He’ll never leave me, no matter where I go. (*chorus*)