

Weekly Devotional
April 2, 2020

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. (Ephesians 1:7 ESV)

Chances are, if you're like most young people, you've gotten yourself into some sort of trouble. Maybe you've gotten caught breaking a rule at school. Or maybe you've backtalked to one of your parents. Or maybe you didn't do one of your chores or arrived home after curfew. Whatever the case, we've all made choices and done things that have landed us some negative consequences, like being grounded or having our video games or our TV privileges taken away for a time.

Thankfully—for those who are in Christ—when it comes to our disobedience against God, we have the assurance of total forgiveness. We might still experience consequences for our disobedience against the Lord, but those consequences no longer include eternal separation from God. In Christ, our sin is completely forgiven. And not only is it forgiven—it is defeated! So much so that no condemnation can be brought against those who belong to Christ (Romans 8:1), all because he has redeemed us through his death, burial, and resurrection.

As we continue to approach Easter, let's allow the good news of Christ to assure us of the full forgiveness of our trespasses and sins. And since we've been forgiven, let's allow the Holy Spirit within us to guide us in such a way that we live for God's honor and glory. He has done what we could never do for ourselves. He has defeated sin for us... according to the riches of his grace.

Questions:

- When was the last time you got into trouble? What did you do? What was your consequence? How did you feel about that consequence?
- What does it mean that sin has been defeated by Christ? In what ways are you comforted by knowing the eternal consequences of sin no longer apply those who are in Christ?
- How does the good news of Christ encourage you to fight against sin and temptation? How does it encourage you to live for his honor and glory?
- Spend some time thanking God for his forgiveness.