

SET FREE

FROM ME
• CHRISTIAN PRISONS •

Galatians 3:25-26 (NLT) Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.

Psalms 8:3-8 (ESV) When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

Two ways of looking at people:

Man is basically good with a tendency toward evil.

Man is basically evil with a tendency toward good.

Psalms 14:1-3 (ESV) They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Romans 3:10-12 (NIV) "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 7:14-15 (ESV) We know that the Law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.

How We Get in Prisons

1. We don't understand why we're a mess.

Romans 5:14 (ESV) Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the One who was to come.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 (ESV) For as by a man came death, by a Man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Exodus 20:5-6 (ESV) "You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments."

2. We don't understand how good we can be.

Romans 7:22-24 (ESV) For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

3. We don't understand what Jesus did for us.

Luke 4:18 (ESV) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed..."

Four tools the enemy uses:

► People ► Trauma ► Culture

Romans 12:2 (ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

► Thoughts

Daniel 7:25 (ESV) "He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High..."

Not only do we know God through Jesus Christ, but we only know ourselves through Jesus Christ. We only know life and death through Jesus Christ. Apart from Jesus, we cannot know the meaning of our life, the meaning of our death, the meaning of God, or the meaning of ourselves. It is only in Christ.

— Pascal

4. We don't realize we are children of the King.

Galatians 4:7 (ESV) So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT) "But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light."

Get Steve's Additional Notes!

Email Rufus: rufus@gracestl.org

GRACE CHURCH

Services
Sunday at 9 & 11 am

WHAT'S NEXT?



TODAY
communion



May 21, 2023

4701 Illinois Route 111
Granite City, IL 62040

GraceEast.org
618.797.9910

VBS is going to be

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

Sun - Thurs July 16 - 20
6 - 8:30 PM

FREE for kids ages
4 years old - 6th Grade!

Sign-up here! Or
GraceEast.org/VBS

Questions? Contact Jen @ jmckinney@gracestl.org

S.M.I.L.E!
Sunday Morning Intermission Life Encouragement

New Series On World Views

What World Do You Live In?
Sundays @ 10:15 am
See Small Groups below for more info

BIBLE ADVENTURE!
3 Years - 6th Grade

GRACE KIDS

DIVING IN!

**MONDAY
MAY 22
6 - 7:30 PM**
FUN! FOOD!
FELLOWSHIP!
PRAYER!

Sign up:
jmckinney@gracestl.org

Y.A.M. Presents
Worship Night Featuring:
**WORSHIP
GENERATION**

June 3 @ 6 pm
Follow Y.A.M. and Worship
Generation on Instagram for
updates and info!

@yam grace east @the.worshipgeneration

SMALL GROUPS & PRAYER

S.M.I.L.E	SUN	10:15 AM	Gym Room 103	Kyle & Wendy Knight	beveryblessed@yahoo.com	636-485-3827
Stretching/Scriptures	MON	9:30 AM	GCE Gym	Evelyn Harris	evharris@charter.net	618-558-7989
The Chosen	MON	6:00 PM	Sanctuary	Rufus & Melissa Valencia	rufus@gracestl.org	618-604-0534
The God in Me	TUE	10:00 AM	GCE B5	Marilyn Davis	saverdixon@gmail.com	618-709-2371
Womens Bible Study	TUE	6:30 PM	Gym Room 103	Kasey C. & Katie V.	kayy85@aol.com	618-420-2008
Bible Study	TUE	6:30 PM	Cook's home	Terry & Pam Cook	cook.terry@yahoo.com	618-789-3362
Jesus & Women	WED	11:30 AM	Kozer home	Lynnette Kozer	lkozer77@gmail.com	618-781-2744
Prayer	FRI	6:00 PM	Sanctuary	Kyle & Wendy Knight	beveryblessed@yahoo.com	636-485-3827
Youth Bible Study	1st & 3rd SUN	11:00 AM	GCE B3	Art & Megan Jalinsky	mjalinsky@sbcglobal.net	314-223-0133
YAM-Young Adults	2nd & 4th SUN	6:30 PM	Gym Room 103	Timmy Vaughan	timcanrecycling@gmail.com	618-876-9030