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Please take a moment to quiet yourself before God. Ask Him to forgive you for any sin that is on your heart and to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit.

Now please read Ephesians 1:7-11

What do we have according to verse 7?

We have redemption and forgiveness for our sins. The Greek word used for *redemption* in verse 7 is *apolytrosis*, which means "a releasing by the payment of a ransom, the release from prison, the release from the misery of sin, the ransom of life." Thankfully we receive redemption and forgiveness because of the blood of Christ; we could never earn His forgiveness.

These gifts are given according to what (verses 7-8)?

According to the abundant riches of His grace. Perhaps you are worried that your sin is too great; that God couldn't possibly have enough grace for your debt. The word for *abounding* in verse 8 is *perisseuo* which translates "to exceed a fixed measure, to be leftover, and above a certain number or measure." He always has more grace than is needed. His grace is more than enough.

How does God feel about forgiving, redeeming and lavishing us with His grace?

It gives Him good pleasure! He delights to forgive and redeem you and me.

Aside from making us clean and redeeming all that you have lost due to sin, what else does God have for us (verse 11)?

An inheritance...from rags to riches...literally. Knowing our sins, our flaws, our failings, before God laid the foundations of the earth He set aside a wonderful inheritance for all who will believe in Him.

Now, knowing that you have a wonderful inheritance, will you live your life any differently?

Knowing that our debt has been paid and that we have an inheritance in Christ, let us turn our attention, resources, gifts and energy to living for Christ and His glory.

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