

**I. Problem: the Law brings \_\_\_\_\_**

*"We were held captive under the law, imprisoned"* [Galatians 3:23a]

A. The Law holds us \_\_\_\_\_

Imprisoned: "Kept under restraint"--hemmed in--cooped up

B. The Law is our \_\_\_\_\_

A guardian is part of a bigger plan

*"The heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything...."* [Galatians 4:1]

Until he comes of age, the heir is \_\_\_\_\_

C. Ongoing problems

1. We may \_\_\_\_\_ we are out of prison when we are not

2. Though we have come of age—given all the inheritance

We are reluctant to \_\_\_\_\_ our inheritance—to access it

Though the cell door is open, we stay in \_\_\_\_\_

Even as adopted children, we have trouble living in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel

**II. Adoption: the incredible \_\_\_\_\_**

*"God sent forth his Son...to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."* [Galatians 5:4-5]

A. Redemption--to release a slave by making full payment for him or her

Our rescue is the \_\_\_\_\_! Salvation is holistic!

Not only are our sins transferred from us [redemption]--\_\_\_\_\_ the rights and privileges of sons and daughters are given to us

B. Adoption

*"We love because he first loved us"* [First John 4:19]

*"First comes love, then comes adoption"*

C. Union with Christ

*"In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith"* [Galatians 3:26]

The dominant way the NT describes believers is that we are "\_\_\_\_\_"

*"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ"* [27]

*"You are \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ"--God's provision in the Garden anticipates Jesus*

*"Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God...."* [First Peter 3:18]

We live as if we are \_\_\_\_\_ children

*"You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into \_\_\_\_\_, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'"* [Romans 8:15-16]

*"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."* [First John 3:1-2]

**III. The privileges of adoption**

A. Identity--our primary identity is in Christ

B. \_\_\_\_\_

Closeness, affection and generosity are at the heart of our relationship.

*"God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'"* [4:6]

C. The privilege of \_\_\_\_\_

D. Joy!