

DOMINION OF DARKNESS

Ephesians 2.1-3 // Romans 3.10-12

Dominion: This means control or power over something. There is an absoluteness about this control as it is imposed on someone or something.

ENJOYING OUR SLAVERY

Our slavery to sin is unique in that we actually enjoy being enslaved to our sin. The Word describes the actions of sin as our "passions," "desires," and "enjoyment."

John 3.16-21 // Romans 14.23

**Jesus didn't come to save us from something we wanted out of;
He came to save us from something He wanted us out of.**

THE KINGDOM OF THE SON

1 Peter 2.9 // John 8.12, 12.46 // 2 Corinthians 4.6 // Galatians 4.4-9
1 Thessalonians 5.5-9 // Romans 6.6-14

Has qualified, delivered, and transferred: God has done all of this in the past; it has all been done, once for all, finished at the cross. We cannot be transferred back to the domain of darkness. Elsewhere the word "transferred" refers to a king transferring all of his people from one land to another.

**I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.
Now a slave has no permanent place in the family,
but a son belongs to it forever.**

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

-Jesus, John 8:34-36 (NIV)



WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

• **JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!**

If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!

• **JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!**

We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEWCOMERS' MEET AND GREET

If you are new to **Life Mission Church** and would like to know more about who we are and what we're about, please join after church **today!** We'll have a time for Pastor Jobey to give a brief history of how we got here, what we believe, what our mission is, and we'll have a time for open Q&A.

WOMENS' COLOSSIANS STUDY

If you're looking to soak in more of Colossians as we go through the book as a church, join us for our Women's Bible Study! We will be going through the book **Colossians** by Kay Arthur's **The New Inductive Study Series** for 8 weeks, starting September 11th!

One group will be led by Katie McGinty on Wednesday mornings 9:15 - 11am (childcare provided!), the other will be led by Christine Christopher on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm (childcare not available). Sign up at the Connection Booth today!

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out **www.lifemissionchurch.com** and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Colossians 1.10-14**. What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday or from these verses? _____

What types of "kingdoms" do you see in the world? Think through an "us and them" type of mentality. Be honest. _____

Before moving on, it's important to repent of any attitudes or prejudices (political, racial, socio-economic, education level, etc.) that you may have. Do this in your own time or as a group.

Why is it important for us to understand and believe that there are two, and only two, distinct kingdoms? _____

Read **Ephesians 2.1-3**. Looking back at your life before you knew Jesus, how would you describe your "slavery to sin" as a "son of disobedience" and "child of wrath"? Do you relate to that description or do you have a hard time understanding that, and why? _____

Most people see morals as a sign of "goodness." But goodness speaks more of the quality of the morals, and the Word says that only God is *truly* good, in its purest sense (**Luke 18.19, Romans 3.10-12**). God does not simply look at actions and mere morality (because even the wicked can act morally by their own strength (**Luke 6.32-36**), but He looks at the heart (**1 Samuel 16.7**). Read **Romans 14.23**. Why would God consider everything that's not done in faith to be sin?

Read **Romans 1.18-23** and **1.28-32**. What sticks out to you in these verses? _____

Here, Paul tells us that we, as unbelievers, "suppress the truth"; we ignore the fact that God is real, though it is apparent. All unbelievers reject God, regardless of how vocal or "obvious" their rejection is. All have suppressed the truth and refuse to give God thanks, spurning Him, their Creator, as well as the cross of Christ, making them actual enemies of God (**Colossians 1.21, Romans 5.10**).

Read **Ephesians 2.4-13** and **5.8-14**. Again thinking of the "only two kingdoms," how do these verses shed light on how we should view those who are in the "kingdom of darkness"? Read **Romans 2.4** and **Matthew 5.43-48**. _____
