

SRMBC SEPTEMBER 2018 BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Lesson Title	Date	Scripture/Movie
Week 1 – Imagine a Loving Father	9/5/2018	Matthew 3
Week 2 – Imagine Forgiveness	9/12/2018	Luke 15
Week 3 – Imagine Redemption	9/19/2018	Luke 4
Week 4 – Imagine Going Home	9/26/2018	John 14
SRMBC Family Movie Night?	9/28/2108	"I Can Only Imagine"

ABOUT MERCY ME



MercyMe is an inspirational Christian band with a rich musical repertoire. They're the lighter side of Christian music—contemporary Christian music that is designed to be a praise and worship experience.

Among their best hits:

- **"I Can Only Imagine"** is a glorious view of what Heaven will look like when we finally get to see Jesus face-to-face.
- **"Bring the Rain"** speaks passionately about learning to stand with Jesus in spite of circumstance—of getting through the hard times by leaning on God.
- **"Word of God Speak"** calls to God to speak down his message to the world—this song won a number of awards, even being named Christian Song of the Decade by Billboard magazine in 2009.
- **"Greater"** shouts out that it doesn't matter what all the voices of the world tell you as long as you know who you are in Christ and what He says about you—because He is greater than all the powers of the world.

ABOUT BART M. MILLARD OF MERCY ME



- Bart Marshall Millard (born December 1, 1972) is an American singer and songwriter who is best known as the leader of the band MercyMe. Bart wrote the lyrics of "I Can Only Imagine" in just ten minutes.
- The song was inspired by the loss of his father, who was abusive before being diagnosed with cancer and transformed by faith in Jesus Christ.
- Millard is from Greenville, Texas. He and his wife Shannon have five children: Sam, Gracie, Charlie, Sophie and Miles.

ABOUT "I CAN ONLY IMAGINE" - THE MOVIE



In the film, I Can Only Imagine, the life story of MercyMe lead singer Bart Millard is told for the first time.

Bart grew up with an abusive father and a distant mother, and in early adulthood, came face to face with his own deep need for acceptance.

His lack of love from his earthly father challenged his faith and hope in his heavenly Father.

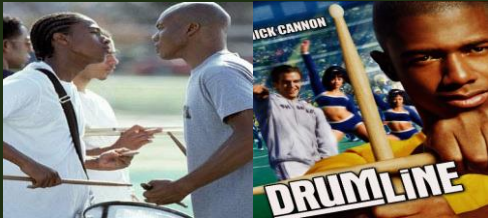


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

I Can Only Imagine:
Week 2: Imagine Redemption
Luke 4:16 – 21

Group Discussion

Can you think of a favorite movie, novel or other story that has a redemption aspect in it? Describe what/who was set free, given a second chance or restored to new life.



LUKE 4:16 – 19 (NKJV)

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

LUKE 4:20 – 21 (NKJV)

20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

1. How would you describe redemption in your own words? What sort of redemptions did Arthur and Bart Experience?

Bart

- The Bitterness toward his father gone
- He was able to forgive his father
- He was able to put the past behind him/them
- Renewed view for pursuing his dreams/ambitions
- Restored relationship with His Father



Arthur

- All of his sins and past forgiven
- His mind, emotions were restored
- Relationship with Christ and the church
- Being a Father/provider for his son
- Restored relationship with his son

What is a Redemption?

re·demp·tion
The action of saving or being saved from sin

Definition Of Redemption

1. To buy back.
2. To set free by paying the ransom.
3. To deliver from sin and its penalties, as by a sacrifice for the sinner.
4. To make amends or atone for.

For it is by
grace you have
been saved and
not of yourself,
it is the gift of
God

Ephesians 2:8

2. How have you experienced redemption personally? When have you had a redeeming moment in your life?

- In the 1st Desert Storm, we were scheduled to attack an Iraqi airport, but right before moving out – we got the Word of the “Cease – Fire”
- In 1992, at a church near Ft Campbell KY, I accepted Christ at a revival – and I have never been the same. My war with and against God was over



And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight (Col. 1:21 -22)

3. In Luke 4, Jesus said that he came to set prisoners free. Do you consider yourself a prisoner of sin that has been set free on a daily basis? What reminds you or makes you forget?

I know I am free – from sin and its penalty – Free to worship, serve and to live in and for Christ.

Reminders Of My Freedom

- The Word Of God
- The Spirit Of God
- The Church Of God
- The Change In My Life

Things That Make Me/Us Forget My Freedom

- The Trials Of Life
- The Enemy (The Devil)
- The World's Influence And Temptation
- My Own Sins And Short Comings



"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

4. Think about the redemption you have in Christ. What does it look like to live in Christ's freedom?

Key Points

- Freedom is not the right to do what we want, but the ability to do what we ought.
- Without Christ, we are slaves to sin, unable to do what is right.
- Christ's death on the Cross set us free from the penalty and power of sin.

What Freedom In Christ Looks Like

- **Christians Are Free From Condemnation** – Everyone is guilty of sin (Rom. 3:23) and thus deserving of condemnation. But Jesus accepted the condemnation on our behalf. (Gal. 3:13; Rom 8:1).
- **Christians Are Free From Having To Be "Good Enough" For Heaven** - The Bible exposes our faults, even when we are at our best. Yet, Christ, kept the Law so that by grace He makes our way into heaven (Rom 10:4; Eph. 2:8 – 9).
- **Christians Are Free From Fear** - We obey God because we are grateful for His great love for us. We follow God's Law primarily because of our love for Him (1 John 4:19).

5. How would reflecting on your redemption affect what you would do tomorrow?

- Affects My Priorities (Matt 6:33; Phil 3:9)
- Affects My Perspectives (II Cor 5:16; Phil 4:8)
- Affects My Purpose (Prov. 3:5 – 6; I Tim 2:4)
- Affects My Perception (Self, Others; John 1:12 I Tim 2:4)
- Affect My Passions (Gal 5:22 – 25)



6. How Has Your Redemption Changed Your Perspective On Your Unique Calling?

- Experiencing my own personal redemption in Christ is so wonderful – that I want to see others freed as well.
- Jesus' passion in providing our Salvation by going to the Cross – shows me the importance of Redeeming others to God.
- Even the redemption of one person, brings great joy to God and the angels in heaven (Luke 15:7)
- It is a great privilege to join Jesus in the ministry of redemption

7. How do you think your story of change – your own journey of faith – could encourage and challenge others?

- It can let them know if God can change me He can change anybody.
- My story can let people know that God demonstrated through Jesus Christ His great love and forgiveness no matter what we've done.
- My story can challenge people to challenge people to trust in the Redemptive power and promise of God in Christ – regardless of our circumstances



8. How do you think God is inviting you to share that story with others?

- Witnessing to my neighbors, family and people I meet
- Telling others about our Church - Solid Rock (Where the love of Christ is...)
- Preaching/Teaching the Gospel – the Word of God.
- Posting my testimony on Social Media (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc.)



QUESTIONS
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Father, thank You for the many ways you have redeemed us – set us free from sin and spiritual death, and secured our salvation.

Help us fully embrace the redemption you have secured for us.

May we be able to one day tell our story of change to others. We trust Lord.

In Jesus name. Amen.