

During Kevin's teaching on God and money, he explained that when we become captivated by what Christ has done for us, we will become generous givers, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. In addition, we will give joyfully, sacrificially, and willingly. I could see the connections he was making, and yet I was "stuck" with the part about being captivated by what Christ did for me. Over the years, I remember completing different Bible studies or reading different verses and being amazed at Jesus' sacrifice, but right now I can't honestly say that I am captivated. Why not?!?

I was on a trip with my family, and we spent time hiking in the mountains. We saw snow-capped mountaintops and redbuds were just starting to bloom. We saw waterfalls that rushed over huge boulders and meandered into streams. There were deer, bear, and wild turkeys. In a gift shop, I praised a painter and admired his scenic paintings, but sadly I don't recall thanking God for His beautiful creation as we hiked through the mountain paths and viewed the breathtaking landscape. Why not?!?

Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10) "The thief" is Satan, and I allowed him to distract me from thanking God for His handiwork. I allowed him to keep me too busy to be captivated by Jesus' sacrifice for me. I believe God wants to give us a renewed perspective on His grace so that we can be captivated by our Creator. If we allow it, His grace will permeate every area of our life and will spill over and affect others, too.

The song "Amazing Grace" was written by John Newton, a former ship captain that transported slaves across the Middle Passage. After converting to Christianity, he regretted his part in the slave trade and penned the words to the famous hymn. Although his sin seems horrific, don't be tricked into thinking that our own sin is any different! All sin separates us from God, and the only way to be reconciled to Him is to trust that Jesus' death paid the debt for our sin. That is grace; it is a gift we don't deserve! "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:8-10) May we be captivated by God's gift of grace through His son, Jesus, and then respond with generous giving!

## *Amazing Grace*

*Amazing Grace (How sweet the sound)  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears reliev'd;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believ'd!*

*The Lord has promised good to me.  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who call'd me here below,  
Will be for ever mine.*

### **Questions to Consider:**

The Greatest Commandment is “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) How does this apply to the topic of God and money? When I understand that God’s grace has been given to me, how can I respond any other way than to love God? What does this look like?

What compels my heart to give?

In what ways has Satan stolen my captivation with Jesus?

What things might be distracting me from recognizing God’s gifts in my life? (e.g. technology, relationships, job, etc.)

Is God asking me to give more generously in the area of money or time?

Where do I see a need locally? Globally?

***Additional Verses:*** 2 Corinthians 8, 9; Mark 12:44, Ephesians 2:8-10, John 10:10

***This month’s memory verse:*** “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

### **REMINDERS:**

**4.17 – 3rd:Culture Night!** Join us as we make an impact on TWO locations this month! We will divide and concur, tackling both our partnership with Salvation Army & Habitat for Humanity. If you are up for some exterior painting, please join our team at the Habitat (Tabitha’s) House – 916 Lincoln Ave, Adrian. Habitat painting will run Saturday, from 12-3pm & Sunday evening from 6-8pm as normal. If you are up for all kinds of miscellaneous cleaning and organizing projects, then Salvation Army is the place for you! This team will meet at Salvation Army (217 W. Church St, Adrian) Sunday night only, from 6-8pm also. PARENTS... mosaicKIDS will be running @ SHU Sunday evening from 5:45-7:45...drop them off, go help serve, and be back to get them by 7:45 please! Question’s...email Dan – [dan@1mosaic.org](mailto:dan@1mosaic.org)

**4.24 – EASTER SUNDAY at SHU at 6pm! RESURRECTION LIVING!** When Jesus died on the cross He paid the price for our sins, that we might be set free. When Jesus defeated death and the tomb was empty, He opened the door for a new way of living! Join us Easter Sunday as Dan unfolds the power and beauty of ‘Resurrection Living’. This will begin a four week journey looking at our ‘state of living’. Invite your neighbors!