



## Word 5: Regeneration

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### Big Words, Simple Definitions

Salvation – Jesus saves

Propitiation – Jesus takes

Redemption – Jesus pays

Justification – Jesus stands

Regeneration – Holy Spirit revives

### We were all spiritually dead

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. – *Titus 3:3*

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. – *Ephesians 2:1-3*

### We all needed to be revived

(John 3:3, Romans 7:14-24, Romans 8:7-9)

**re•gen•er•a•tion** | rē, jenə' rā sh ən |

noun Theology

The work of the Holy Spirit to renew  
and revive spiritually dead people

### God renewed our souls

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. – *Titus 3:4-7*

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# The regenerative work of the Holy Spirit paves the way for...

## A new beginning

...Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." – *John 3:3*

## A new creation

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! – *2 Corinthians 5:17*

## A new life

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. – *Ephesians 2:4-5*

## A new disposition

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. – *Ephesians 4:22-24*

## A new heart

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. – *Ezekiel 36:26*

## Next Steps

**Women:** Get in on the last three weeks of video, discussion and prayer in the class "Living Your Life as a Beautiful Offering", offered Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings. See What's Happening for details.

**Men:** If you're caught in the grip of any addictive behavior, you need the kind rebirth we've learned about today. Check out Stand Firm and learn how, along with other men, you can experience a new way of life. Details on the green insert in today's program.

## On your way home

Can you see any signs of regeneration going on in nature? Call them out as you head for home.

### Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) Have you started any new spring projects? What are your plans and do you think you will actually get it done?
- 2) Do you have any famously unfinished projects around your home or in your life? What is keeping you from finishing them? What would it take for you to renew your effort to complete the project?
- 3) Does it bother you that the Apostle Paul labels you as spiritually dead? Why or why not?
- 4) How has God renewed your heart or revived your soul in the past year?
- 5) If God promises to make all things new, why do you think our faith seems so old or unchanged at times?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?