

February 9, Saturday,

Romans 5:12-19

The gift of life

*the rescuing gift
God's gift poured through
this generous, life-giving gift
this wonderful life sentence
the breathtaking recovery life makes
sovereign life
this wildly extravagant life-gift
this grand setting-everything-right
Christ got us into life.*

So Peterson translates 'life' in Romans 5:15-19 - the Fourth-of-July on steroids (x umpteen gezillions).

We box it - I'm Presbyterian. I'm on session. I attend Hope. I'm on ___ committee.

We fillet it - I love our friendships. I enjoy our banners. I'm proud of our pastors.

We ego it - I think we should.... I feel that.... I see how.... In my opinion.... You know that I said....

We ad it - Come to worship. Donate your clothes. Bring a label. Pick up your newsletter.

This life

- rescues the down-and-out, the lost, the hungry, the crying, the dying, the uncaring
- pours through our thoughts, our feelings, our memories, our dreams, our bodies
- generates affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity, willingness to stick with things, conviction that holiness permeates all, loyal commitments, marshalling energies wisely
- gives breathtaking love, joy, hope, peace
- holds sovereign confidence for every day
- explodes in wildly extravagant generosity
- grandly sets-everything-right

Jump, shout, soar, scream, race, sing, explode, whirl, dance, startle, kick, cry, . . .
this is life!

When I close you down, God, open all my doors and windows and shutters and roofs
and walls and . . .

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A Way to Pray – Loud

- ✓ Find a time/place where no one can hear you
- ✓ With your own body, make the loudest noises you can – for 2 minutes
- ✓ Listen in silence – for 2 minutes
- ✓ Thank you, God, for life.