

The Message of the Cross

Matt VanCleave

May 19th, 2024

We would like your feedback!

Please answer this brief survey to help us provide you with a better small group experience!

<https://forms.gle/1miQBLuCAeKLC1qc7>

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will bring my disappointment to God.
- I will not base the wellbeing of my heart on the outcome of someone else's life.
- I will not live in the misery of anyone whose life is hard.
- I will find strength in the Lord my God.
- I will not allow disappointment to blind me to goodness.

SERMON SUMMARY

The sermon delves into the significance of Jesus' death on the cross as the ultimate act of love and sacrifice, highlighting its transformative power to forgive sins and reconcile humanity with God. It emphasizes the victory of love over darkness, urging listeners to embrace the cross as a symbol of God's incomparable love and forgiveness.

The message challenges individuals to make a decision to follow Jesus and surrender their lives to him, exchanging guilt and brokenness for healing and abundant life. Ultimately, the sermon underscores that only through the message of the cross can the brokenness of the world be set right by God's love and redemption.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How is the message of the cross perceived as foolishness by those who are perishing, and what does it mean to be spiritually moving either towards or away from God? In what ways have you seen people dismiss the message of the cross, and how can you help them see its significance?
2. Why is Jesus' death on the cross unique compared to other deaths in human history, and how does it demonstrate God's love? How have you personally experienced the love of Jesus through his sacrifice, and how can you share that love with others?
3. Based on Romans 8:1, how does the cross offer forgiveness, mercy, and freedom from condemnation?
4. How does the shedding of Jesus' blood, the ultimate sacrifice, mark the end of animal sacrifices and a new beginning of life in faith? In what ways has your faith in Jesus' sacrifice changed your life? How can you explain this change to someone unfamiliar with the message of the cross?
5. What key decision does the message of the cross invite us to make, and what does it require of us? How have you made this key decision in your life? What challenges or blessings have you experienced as a result of making this commitment?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

- 1 Corinthians 1:18
- John 10:18
- 1 Peter 2:23-24
- Romans 8:1
- 1 John 1:7
- Psalm 51:17
- Colossians 2:15
- 1 Corinthians 2:8
- Romans 8:7-8
- Galatians 2:20

Next Steps

- I am coming to the cross today and giving my life to Jesus.

Prayer Request(s)

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