
Sin is simply to “miss the mark” (or “bullseye”).

The God-Given Marks of Humanity (Genesis 1-2)

To bear in us a whole and unhindered reflection of the image of God.

To be in right relationship with God and with others.

To live life to it's fullest, forever and ever and ever.

The God-Forsaken Marks of Humanity (Genesis 3)

We have fallen under the burden of shame and blame.

We have been cursed to a life sin and death.

We have been alienated from God and others.

The God-Forgiven and Expected Marks of Humanity

In the Cross we have been freed from shame
the curse of sin
the alienation of broken
relationship

In the Resurrection we have been promised life beyond death today, tomorrow and forever and ever.

In the Pentecost we have Christ in us, the hope of Glory!

Food for Thought

For the week of Nov. 4, 2012

(Questions and Scriptures for Life group study)

Review the questions below before your group meets.

DIGGING DEEPER

“Han” and the Cross

This week, Jared used the Korean concept of Han as a metaphor to describe a basic principle of sin. The idea was that throughout our lives sin has been put into us by our own nature, others and the world around us and eventually, must work its way out. As we have had sin “put into” us, unfortunately, as we sin, we too, “put sin into” others. In what ways have you experienced sin as the cycle described?

How might the idea that Christ absorbs even the sin that has been put into you by specifically others help you in processing the freedom that we have received through Christ on the cross?

The Promise of Resurrection

If what we believe is true. If we can truly say that Christ was resurrected from the dead—that Christ conquered all things, even death itself. And that, in Christ, we too can expect that as Paul says, “we are more than conquerors through him who loved us,” how might we not just anticipate the resurrected life, but live daily in the promised resurrection of our Lord?

In other words, what does the resurrection mean for us now, specifically those who are technically “alive” but feel dead?

The Infilling of the Holy Spirit

The event of the Pentecost marks the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the lives of all those who seek and believe—that is, Christ in us. There is incredible promise and great expectation that can come from such an incredible truth if only we would so choose to believe it! Scripture says itself that this means that we might be filled with the very Spirit and power that raised Christ from the dead!

What needs to happen personally in order for us to allow Christ Spirit to reign supreme in our lives? Do we truly believe that,

through the Holy Spirit we have access to such great and awesome power? Based on the life of Christ, how ought this incredible power be used?

It is only because of what God has done for us, is doing in us this very moment, and the promise of what God will do tomorrow that we can live life with great expectations! Read each passage under the three headings then list and discuss what each part of the gospel says about what we can expect that God has done, is doing and will do for us as we continue in relationship with Him.

Expectations: The Cross (The Gift of Christ, our Savior)

Colossians 1:19-23—

Hebrew 2:6-9; 14-18—

1 Peter 2:20b-25—

Expectations: The Resurrection (The Gift of God, our Father)

Romans 6:1-14—

1 Corinthians 15:50-57—

1 Peter 1:3-5—

Expectations: Pentecost (The Gift of the Holy Spirit, our Guide)

John 14:15-20; 25-27—

Romans 8:10-13—

2 Corinthians 3:17-18—

Titus 3:3-7—

THE ONE THING

God knows who you are, He loves you, and He wants you to know and love Him.

How do you do that?

You must first admit that, like everyone else, you are a sinner. Being sinners means that we are imperfect and do wrong; we fall short of God's perfect standard. It also means we are separated from Him and deserve His judgment.

But He loves us! God sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. He died for your sins. He was punished so you don't have to be. Not only that; death did not defeat Him. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead, alive again!

Trusting in Jesus' sacrifice for you is the only way to find forgiveness from God and to begin a relationship with Him. We urge you to take this step of faith today. To do that, simply talk to God – this is called praying – and tell Him you believe in His Son.

We suggest a prayer like this:

“Lord Jesus, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. I ask your forgiveness and now turn from everything that I know is wrong. Thank you for dying on the cross for me, to set me free from my sins. Please come into my life and fill me with your Holy Spirit and be with me forever. I believe you will! Thank you Lord Jesus, Amen.

Share your decision with someone, share it with us at Real Life, we want to celebrate with you. info@seekreallife.com