



# Christ's Commission Fellowship Los Angeles

DGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE  
APRIL 20, 2014

## He Is Risen!

### WORD:

*And he \*said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him.*

*Mark 16:6*

Some people focus too much on Good Friday, forgetting that Good Friday has its fulfillment on Resurrection Sunday. While Good Friday is part of God's plan for our salvation as Jesus hung on that cross, and we can look Resurrection Sunday as our source of joy.

There are 7 Reasons why Jesus had to die on the cross.

### 1. RESTITUTION

*God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement,[i] through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished (Romans 3:25)*

The wages or the payment for sin was death — someone had to die to appease the anger of God towards sin. It was through Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross was there restitution for us. It was God who presented His very own Son as the sacrifice for atonement. Atonement refers to a satisfactory payment for a wrong done. But Jesus Christ had done nothing wrong and yet He went to the cross for our restitution.

### 2. REPRIEVE

*In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (Hebrews 9:22)*

A reprieve refers to a pardon. . . it refers to forgiveness. The bible tells us that without the shedding of blood our sins cannot be forgiven. The one thing we should remember about forgiveness — once you have forgiven something, it should not be repeatedly brought up — that is not true forgiveness. Scripture tells us that in true forgiveness, someone has to pay with the shedding of blood. That is why Jesus had to shed His blood in Calvary in order for our transgressions to be forgiven. It was His shedding of blood that gave us reprieve.

### 3. REDEMPTION

*But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under [e]the Law, 5 so that He might redeem those who were under [f]the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)*

Redemption means to recover something by means of payment. Payment must be made in full, that is the only time that you can redeem what you have lost.

Why does the verse say in the fullness of time? Historically, Jesus' coming could not have come at just any other time since it was only during the Roman rule that they executed criminals by crucifixion. In John 3 when Nicodemus was talking to Jesus, Jesus said to him that in the Old Testament God commanded Moses to lift up a serpent on a stick so that whoever gazes at the snake would be healed. Jesus gave us the parallelism when He said that just "*as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.*" This is what they did to Jesus. . . they put Him up on the pole, the cross on Mt Golgatha. This was done so that anyone who would look up to Jesus and place their faith on Him will be saved.

#### 4. RECONCILIATION

***namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*** (2 Corinthians 5:19)

Many of us believe that we can reconcile ourselves to God. . . but God's standards are different. We cannot reconcile ourselves to God through religion or good works. . . the truth is it is God who is reconciling Himself to us and to prove that He sent His Son Jesus Christ. It was God reconciling Himself to the world not counting our trespasses against Him because the penalty of our sins fell on the shoulders of Jesus Christ. It was Jesus who bore our sins on the cross so that we would die to sin and live to righteousness. it is by His wounds that we have been healed.

#### 5. RELATIONSHIP

***But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*** (Galatians 4:4-5)

What Jesus Christ did for us on the cross restored relationship. It was through Jesus Christ that we gain our adoption as children of God. Prior to that the bible tells us in John 8 that we are of our father, the devil. . . and if we do things that the devil does following his footsteps, then we are indeed children of the devil. But what Jesus Christ did on the cross brings us a new relationship – we are no longer under the control of the evil one because through Jesus Christ we are now have adoption into the kingdom of God and are now considered His sons. The book of Galatians tells us that if we are sons, then we are heirs and if we are heirs, we are co-heirs with Christ.

The death of Jesus Christ on Calvary brings us relationship. John 1: 12-13 says ***But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were <sup>[a]</sup>born, not of <sup>[b]</sup>blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.***

#### 6. RELEASE

***Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A <sup>[a]</sup>TREE"—*** (Galatians 3:13)

Deuteronomy tells us that if we want to go to heaven based on our capacity to completely obey God's commandments perfectly 24/7 – that it is really a curse. (Deuteronomy 28:15) Because we are cursed if we rely on our obedience to the law to fulfill the law. . . and we are unable to fulfill the law 100% of the time.

Jesus Christ shouldered our curse. . . the curse of the wrath of God over sin fell on Him. Isaiah 53:5 says "***But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.***" He became a curse for us and because of this we are no longer under that curse. We have been released. The death of Christ brings release. And because of this release, we are free . . . no longer living under a curse.

At the time of the crucifixion, the clouds darkened and at this particular time all the sins of all of mankind fell upon Jesus Christ. . . and for the very first time in His 33 years of existence as man and God, Jesus cried out “My God! My God!”. He had always referred to God as “Father” but at this particular moment He cried out “ My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?” It was at this time that our curse fell on Him. . . and because of this we were released. No longer subjects to the law because now we are under the grace of God.

## 7. RESOLUTION

***Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.***  
(John 19:30)

The bible tells us that no one took the life of Jesus, He freely gave it. But before He breathed His last breath, He said “It is finished”. In Greek, “*Tetelestai*” which means PAID IN FULL. When something is borrowed or owed and it is paid in full, there is a resolution. Case settled. Debt paid. There is complete resolution. When Jesus Christ said “it is finished”, after that the book of Hebrews tells us that He sat down at the right hand of God awaiting for the world to be made His footstool.

The death of Jesus Christ brings an end to our attempts to pay for our sin because the wages of sin is death – and the complete payment of our sins is resolved, is resolute in the finished work of Jesus Christ at Calvary.

But all these would not mean anything without RESURRECTION Sunday. It was because of His Resurrection that these were all sealed. For all of the seven – Restitution, Reprieve, Redemption, Reconciliation, Relationship, Release and Resolution – to have benefit for us, Jesus Christ had to rise from the dead. The tomb must be empty. If Christ did not resurrect then our faith would be useless and we would still be in sin (1Corinthians 15:13-20) BUT HE DID! He was raised from the dead and His deeds have been sealed and completed. And because of this our faith has not been put to shame. Religion tells us to do this, do that . . . God says DONE in Jesus Christ. Yes He died, but yes He lives. . . and He lives forevermore.

Romans 10:9-10 says “ ***that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.***” We have to remember that although knowledge is good, it is cannot change lives. It is the truth applied that will change lives. Head knowledge and truth must translate into the heart and pour out of our hands and lives. . . so that people will know that we are heirs of the kingdom of God.

## Works: Journaling task

***For God so loved the world, that He gave His <sup>[a]</sup>only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.***

Does this verse have a personal meaning for you?  
What does Jesus’ sacrifice mean to you?  
What does God’s love and grace mean to you?