

At the Cross | Week 7

Introduction

God is both just and loving. He cannot ignore sin, but He loves us too much to destroy us. On the cross, His justice and love meet as Jesus pays our debt so we can be in relationship with Him.

Conversation Starters (10 minutes)

- Who will you invite to join you for church this Easter?
- As we head toward Easter, how can you intentionally make space to remember Jesus' sacrifice in your daily routine?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, stood out to you, or challenged you from this weekend's teaching?

[Watch the Video](#) (5 minutes)

- Prepare to watch the video by opening your Bible to [John 3:16-17](#).

Group Discussion (45 minutes)

Starter Question from the Video:

1. What has the sacrifice of Jesus meant for you in your life?

Scripture Observation:

2. Read [John 3:16-17](#). According to these verses, what was God's primary motivation for sending His Son, and what was His ultimate goal for the world?
3. In your Bible, circle the words "perish" and "save." How do these two words highlight the stakes of Jesus' mission on the cross?

Scripture Interpretation/Discussion:

4. Read [Romans 2:4](#). How does God's kindness lead you towards change?
5. God is a "good judge" who cannot ignore a crime. Why is it important for us to know that God is just, even when it feels uncomfortable to talk about sin?

Personal Application:

6. Sin separates, destroys, and requires a sacrifice. Which of these consequences of sin do you see most clearly in your own life or in the world around you?
7. In what area of your life might you reframe God's discipline as His loving commitment to your good?

Prayer (5 minutes)

Close your group time in prayer. You can use these words or your own:

"Lord, thank You for the cross where Your justice and love met for us. We are humbled that You took our debt to give us Your life. Help us live this week in the freedom of Your sacrifice. Amen."

For Further Exploration (Optional)

Read [John 15:5-6](#). How does this picture of the vine and branches show both God's goodness and severity?

Practices to Help You Grow This Week

- Reflect: Spend time this week thanking God that He is both a Just Judge and a Loving Savior.
- Journal: Write down what "relationship with God" looks like to you now that the debt of sin is paid.
- Invite: Think of one person who needs to hear about God's love and invite them to join you for Easter.

Announcements

RSVP for Easter services (don't forget to invite someone to join you!) at easter.sv.cc.