



# *Jesus As Savior*

## **PASSAGES**

Ephesians 2:1-5; Romans 3:21-26; Romans 8:12

## **PREPARE** (MC LEADER)

1. Before leading your group into studying the passage, take some time to study and pray through the passages yourself.
2. Consider these questions as you engage with the passages that you will discuss with your MC.
  - What do these passages tell me about what Jesus is offering?
  - What do these passages tell me about how we are to respond?
  - What do these passages confront in my thinking and the ideology of the world system?
  - How might I better accept and entrust my mind, will, and emotions to this offer of Jesus?

## **DISCUSS** (GROUP)

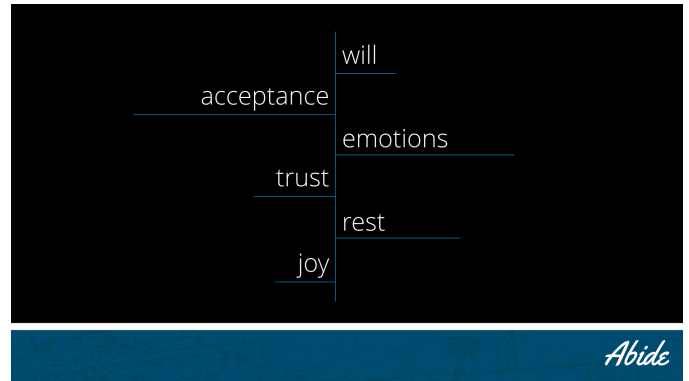
1. Review the core principle(s) from the study.
2. Elicit initial questions or comments about the central teaching.
3. Consider these discussion leading questions to help your MC engage with the main principles presented in the central teaching.
  - In what “non-spiritual” areas of life do we practice abiding (accepting what is offered to the point where we entrust our minds, wills, and emotions to it)?
  - Name some practical areas where you must accept and entrust yourself to Jesus as savior?
  - What other sources do you functionally accept and trust for acceptance (from God or other people)?
  - What are some of the reasons why you might struggle in abiding in Jesus for these sources?

## **APPLY** (GROUP)

1. Share your own personal reflections/convictions related to accepting Jesus as savior.

2. Lead others into recognizing their personal struggles with accepting Jesus as savior. The point here is to spur on some thinking/discussion that will allow the Holy Spirit to bring about some conviction.
3. Discuss action steps that might need to be taken as individuals and as an MC. Be as practical as possible and consider ways to both encourage each other (pray, text, call, etc) and also hold each other accountable to the actions steps (next week follow-up, etc).

## PRESENTATION SLIDES



Accepting what Jesus offers <sup>as Creator</sup> to the point of entrusting my mind, will, and emotions to Him.

*Principle*

|                                   |          |                     |                         |                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Accepting what Jesus offers as... | Creator  | Savior              | Sustainer               | KING                     |
| Posture taken...                  | Humility | <i>unpack today</i> | <i>unpack next week</i> | <i>unpack final week</i> |

*Abide*

- ▶ ...my tough marriage
  - ▶ ...my dysfunctional parents
  - ▶ ...my financial problems
  - ▶ ...my health issues
  - ▶ ...my difficult work situation
  - ▶ ...my bad choices
  - ▶ ...others bad choices
- Saved from...*

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- ▶ ...my difficult work situation
- ▶ ...my bad choices
- ▶ ...others bad choices

**GOD NEVER PROMISES TO SAVE ME FROM THESE THINGS**

*Saved from...*

- ▶ ...an easy life
- ▶ ...a comfortable life
- ▶ ...a wealthy life
- ▶ ...a happy life
- ▶ ...a protected life
- ▶ ...a healthy life
- ▶ ...a problem-free life

*Saved to...*

- ▶ ...an easy life
- ▶ ...a comfortable life
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**GOD NEVER  
PROMISED  
TO SAVE ME  
TO THESE  
THINGS**

*Saved to...*

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

*Ephesians 2:1-3*

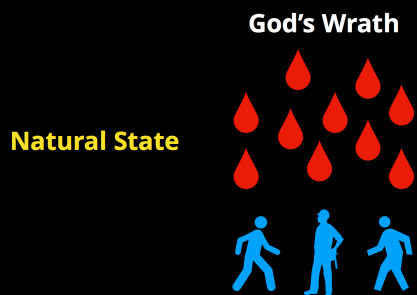
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**John 3:17**  
18 Whoever believes...is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned **already**...

*Ephesians 2:1-3*



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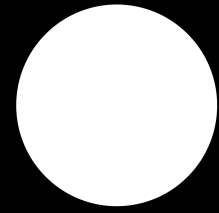
<sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

*Ephesians 2:4-5*

### God's Wrath



### God's Acceptance



*Ephesians 2:4-5*

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law... <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift...

*Romans 3:21-24*

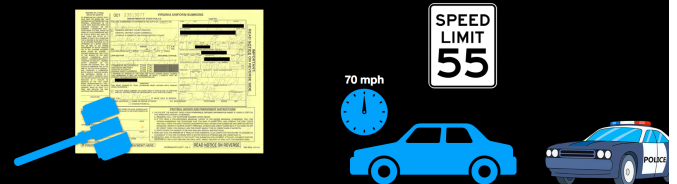
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*Romans 3:21-24*

Justice - receiving proper consequences for actions that are measured against a STANDARD/LAW.



*Romans 3:21-24*

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Justified - to be declared in a right standing as having complied to the requirements of the law

#### Justice:

- \$142
- 3 points

#### Justified when

- Pay \$142
- Clean for a year

*Romans 3:21-24*

Justice - receiving proper consequences for actions that are measured against a STANDARD/LAW.

**Standard: God's perfection**

**Consequence: God's wrath resulting in death**

### God's Wrath



*Romans 3:21-24*



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**God's Wrath**

**Consequence: God's wrath resulting in death**

*Romans 3:21-24*

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

*Romans 3:24-25*

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↳ satisfaction of the consequences of breaking God's law

*Romans 3:24-25*

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**God's Wrath**

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*Romans 3:24-25*

**God's Wrath**

*Ephesians 2:4-5*

**God's Wrath**

**God's Acceptance**

*Ephesians 2:4-5*

**God's Wrath**

**God's Acceptance**

*Ephesians 2:4-5*

**God's Wrath**



**God's Acceptance**



*Ephesians 2:4-5*

This was to show God's righteousness...at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

*Romans 3:26*

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

*Romans 8:12*

**Spiritual Gratitude**  
Recognizing how much God has done on my behalf to save me from His wrath that it provokes a posture of indebted thankfulness towards God.

**Circumstantial Gratitude**  
Thanking God for the good circumstances in my life:

- ▶ A good job
- ▶ Healthy kids
- ▶ A nice house
- ▶ Good friends
- ▶ Good church

*Romans 8:12*

**Bridgemaster  
Clip**

"Thank you for getting me to the train station on time."

"Thank you for a nice cozy ride in the warmth."

*Romans 8:12*

**Circumstantial Gratitude**

"Thank you for getting me to the train station on time."

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**Circumstantial Gratitude**

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*Romans 8:12*

|                                   |          |                     |                  |                   |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Accepting what Jesus offers as... | Creator  | Savior              | Sustainer        | KING              |
| Posture taken...                  | Humility | Spiritual Gratitude | unpack next week | unpack final week |

*Abide*

Regular and intentional thinking on Jesus and what His sacrifice has provided for us.

*Abiding in Christ as Savior*

As we accept what Jesus offers as SAVIOR, we will entrust our minds, wills, and emotions to Him more and more.

*Principle*

## Spiritual Gratitude

This changes our perspective on

- ▶ Who we are
- ▶ Who others are
- ▶ Who God is
- ▶ What God has asked us to do

*Application*

Do you find yourself participating more in Spiritual Gratitude or Circumstantial Gratitude?

How often throughout your week do you regularly and intentionally think about Jesus as Savior?

What are some practical things you can change to make time to reflect on Jesus as Creator and Savior?

*Application*

