are.

Amen.

Good morning.

How many of you are here this morning?

All right.

Well, hey, it is a pleasure to be here.

I tell you what, Steve Holdaway is one of the best men I know.

I'll tell you that for isn't he a good man?

So Steve, thanks so much for having me.

It is certainly a pleasure to get to be here.

I tell you,

I love getting to come to Kansas City, especially this time of year with the color and what a beautiful neighborhood this church is in.

I gotta tell you.

So it is a special privilege to get to be here.

Let me tell you about our ministry.

My wife Kelly and I live in Springdale, Arkansas.

We have a publishing and teaching ministry called Sufficient Word Ministries.

And let me give you the website.

You can write it down, check it out later.

It's www..666.

No, that's not it.

No, don't go there, right?

I don't know what's there.

Don't know.

Our website is sufficientword.com.

You can go there.

The e-mail address there comes right to me.

So if I can ever be a help to you, send me an e-mail.

I'd love to hear from you.

Also, if you're a Facebook person, check us out on Facebook, facebook.com.

forward slash sufficient word.

You'll find us there.

I've got that on the next slide for you.

So check out facebook.com and forward slash sufficient word.

And Steve's mentioned our books.

I got a picture of our books for you here too.

And you can see them out on the table and Steve mentioned them.

So you can also go to Amazon.

They're available on Amazon or you can order them in bookstores.

In particular, we'll have a book for you for the training with lunch called Answers.

I got a picture of it for you on the next slide.

Answers is a book where we answer 40 objections to the gospel with an index in the back to help you find them.

So I'll tell you more about that resource that I'll show you how to use in the training as well as our other books.

Well, if you have your Bible, look in 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

1 Corinthians chapter 15, verses 1 through 4.

That is where we're going to spend our time.

Now we're going to look at several other passages, okay?

So

Be sure and hold your finger here in 1 Corinthians chapter 15, 1 through 4.

Let's look at that together.

I call this the gospel passage.

And I think you'll see why as we look into the scripture here, it actually labels itself that way.

Here's how he does that.

Look at verse 1, 1 Corinthians 15, 1 through 4.

It says, moreover, brothers, I declare unto you the gospel.

There he tells you what he's declaring here.

In fact, if you write in your Bible, underline that the gospel there.

which I preached unto you.

So this is the gospel that the apostle Paul preached, which also you have received and wherein you stand.

We'll come back and look at those key words in a minute, receive and stand.

And then he says, verse two, really important here, by which also you are saved.

Wow, that is really important.

Underline that if you write in your Bible.

If you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain.

We'll come back and look at those statements as well.

Look at verse 3.

For I delivered unto you first of all.

And by the way, when he says first of all there, he's not talking about the order in which he's presenting things here.

That actually in the original means top priority.

So he's describing this gospel message as the top priority message.

And look what he says, for I deliver to you first of all that which I also receive.

Now here it is, here is that top priority saving gospel message right here, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures and he was buried and he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

That's the gospel right there that Jesus died for our sins, was buried and on the third day he rose from the dead according to the scriptures.

Now hey, let me tell you what we're going to accomplish today, okay?

We're gonna solve, when it comes to witnessing, we're gonna solve 3 fears that you may have had through the years.

I know I have.

So let me tell you those three and see if you've had these, okay, when it comes to witnessing or sharing your faith.

How many of you have had this fear?

I don't know what to say.

Have you had that?

Okay, we're gonna solve that one today.

Secondly, how about this one?

I'm afraid to cause offense.

I'm afraid I'm gonna offend.

Have you had that one?

How many of you have had that fear?

How about this fear?

I'm afraid I can't answer objections to the gospel.

How many of you have had one or all three of those fears?

Okay, we're gonna solve all three of those today.

this morning and then this afternoon with the lunch training.

We're going to start really focusing our attention this morning on solving the first big part of that first fear.

I don't know what to say because we're looking at this gospel passage right here, right?

Because it behooves us as witnesses who are sharing the gospel that we know the gospel, right?

And so that's what we're looking at this morning here in 1 Corinthians 15.

You know what's interesting about 1 Corinthians 15, 1-4, there's one place in the Bible where in the context it calls itself the gospel and then it's fully stated.

The only place that happens in the Bible is right here in 1 Corinthians 15, 1-4.

And so this is why a critical part of sharing the gospel is understanding it.

And so that's what we're going to look at here in 1 Corinthians 15, 1-4.

Now, before we jump right into 1 Corinthians 15, 1-4, let me take you over to a passage that's probably familiar to you, but hold your finger in 1 Corinthians 15.

Go over to Romans chapter 1.

We're going to look at Romans 1, 16.

Romans chapter 1 verse 16, but we're coming back to 1 Corinthians 15.

And it's interesting because right over here in Romans 1, Paul actually references that 1 Corinthians 15 passage I just read to you.

I'll show you what I mean.

Look what he says here, Romans 1, 16.

I bet this is a verse you're familiar with.

He says, for I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it, now when he says it, what's he referring to?

The gospel of Christ, right?

For it, the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone.

Now if he stopped there, that would mean everyone's going to heaven.

It's a false teaching called universalism.

But he doesn't stop there, does he?

Notice that he goes on to state the one and only condition that needs to be met in order to receive the power of God unto salvation.

Look what that is, to everyone that believes.

Everyone that believes what?

The gospel of Christ, right?

To the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Notice a couple of important things here.

First of all, we see the title of this gospel message that I just read to you from 1 Corinthians 15.

It is the gospel of Christ.

It's a short message, but God gave it a title.

Secondly, notice that it, the gospel of Christ, is the power of God unto salvation simply and only by believing only it for salvation.

You see that?

Do you see the exclusivity there?

And then I love this part.

Everyone who believes it for salvation will receive the power of God into salvation.

That's a promise from God.

You believe this, he'll give you salvation.

And let me emphasize everyone here.

Nobody's left out of that.

And it is assumed that since the invitation is to, since it says everyone who believes it will be saved, the invitation is open then to everyone as well.

Jesus didn't die for a select few.

No, he didn't.

He died for everyone's sins.

Now, isn't that good news?

And everyone, and in case you

Had a question what he means by everyone.

Look how he closes the verse there, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

That means to the Jew and to the non-Jew.

Now here's another way it relates to 1 Corinthians 15, 1-4.

He says that it, the gospel of Christ, is the power of God unto salvation.

Well, he just said a similar thing we just read in 1 Corinthians 15 in verse 2 when he says, by which also you are saved.

There's the connection.

He's pointing out this saving gospel message.

Now let's go back over to 1 Corinthians 15.

Look at verse 1.

We see a couple of important things here.

First of all, we see the gospel.

Notice he says, I declare unto you the gospel.

What's that word gospel mean?

You remember?

It means good news.

And hey, let's not lose sight of something here.

This is good news that we're sharing.

This is not a burden.

It's not anything to be embarrassed by.

This is good news.

We're talking about the forgiveness of God, a right standing with Him, a home in heaven someday, hope in this life, power in this life to live a life that honors Him.

I mean, that is all good news, right?

And so yes, it is good news.

And notice also about this gospel here.

He has a

couple of things important to see here.

He says, this is the gospel I preached to you.

So it is a message that is to be proclaimed.

We'll talk a little bit about that more as we go on.

And also he says, which also you have received.

So he's talking to these Corinthians, they had received this gospel message.

And that word received actually means to accept.

That's all it means.

So we know that these are believers that Paul's talking to because

They had accepted this and verse two, he tells them that's how they were saved.

And then he says, wherein you stand.

I tell you, I really love that word stand.

All that word means is to stabilize.

Hey, you know what this means for

you and me, he gives us a little insight into the Christian life here.

That the same place we found salvation by accepting the gospel in that from that same source is how we can have power in this life to live a life that honors him.

Hey, you know, God doesn't leave us without power in this life.

He doesn't just tell us to obey on our own.

No, that's not his plan.

He indwells us when we believe the gospel and from that He gives promises to the church, to believers.

And when we believe that, we can see love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, self-control.

And a result of that, when we believe His promises to believers, we will have stability.

That's the Christian life.

It is a walk of faith.

So the Corinthians had accepted the message Paul preached to them, and it's believing that message that saved them, but also where they could find stability.

Now look at verse 2.

Believing the gospel message saves.

How do we know that?

Verse 2 tells us that directly.

It's by which you were saved by accepting this gospel.

That's how they were saved.

And then he gives a couple of what I call qualifying statements here.

He says, if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain, that word keep means to hold or to grasp in the original.

Your version may say to hold fast or to hold in memory.

And hold in memory is probably the closest for this word because it actually means to remember, but it carries with it the idea of understanding.

In other words, you remember because you understand.

So let me illustrate that for you.

How many of you remember that 2 + 2 = 4?

Okay, well, not all of you, but most of you.

I asked that in Oklahoma, no one raises their hands.

I'm not sure what that means.

No, I'm just kidding.

Hey, you can remember that 2 + 2 = 4 because you grasp the concept, right?

You understand it.

You understand that $2 plus $2 more is $4.

And I could never convince you that 2 plus 2 equals 5.

Why?

Because you grasp the concept.

And that's what he's saying here.

Hey, this is the gospel I preached to you that you accepted, where you found salvation, where you can find stability, unless you didn't grasp it, unless you didn't understand.

Now why does he bring this into the conversation here?

I mean, it's got to be important.

He mentioned it.

Why does he do that here?

Well, it is really important for the believer and the unbeliever, for the believer sharing this message.

You know why it's important for us?

That we are

clear, listen to me, that we are clear on this message so the unbeliever understands and can believe.

Secondly, the unbeliever has got to understand this message in order to believe it, right?

Understanding the message is a prerequisite to believing it, right?

That's the point of this.

The other qualifying statement here, he says not only to hold in memory here,

But he also says, unless you have believed in vain, that in vain there is an interesting word.

It actually means without success.

Now let's keep in mind what he's talking about in the context here, okay?

He's talking about that which saves, okay?

So that, if you believe in that which saves, you're gonna have success, salvation.

Now, when he says in vain here, which means without success, that would mean you believe in something that doesn't save.

You follow that?

It's without success because it doesn't save.

Now, how does this happen?

How does believing in vain actually happen?

Well, it really happens in three practical ways.

One way is to have the incorrect purpose.

Another way is to believe the gospel is insufficient to save.

And another way is to put your faith in an incorrect object.

Now what does all that mean?

How does someone believe with the incorrect purpose?

Well, what's the correct purpose for believing the gospel?

It's for salvation.

Here's how a person believes with an incorrect purpose.

It would be like this.

Someone could say, yeah, some guy died on a cross 2,000 years ago, big deal.

What's that have to do with me?

Lots of people died on crosses 2,000 years ago.

If someone believes that, the result of that is going to be in vain.

It's going to be without success.

It's not going to produce salvation.

You know why?

Even though it acknowledges that someone died on a cross, it does not acknowledge the person who died on that cross is the Savior, nor does it acknowledge that death on the cross is what pays for sins.

Therefore, the result of that is going to be in vain.

It's going to be without success.

Another way believing in vain happens is believing that the gospel is insufficient to save.

What's the gospel?

That Jesus died for our sins, was buried on the third day, he rose from the dead.

What's insufficient mean?

That it's not enough.

And hey, I think this is the critical question when it comes to the gospel and what Jesus did for you.

Do you believe that Jesus' death on the cross is enough by itself, no works or rituals involved?

Is it enough by itself when you accept it for you?

Is that enough to get you the forgiveness of your sins?

That's the question.

Hey, when people say they don't believe, here's how people say they don't believe Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection is enough, they will add something to this gospel message.

You know, one of the big things that people add to the gospel is water baptism.

There are lots of things that people add to, but one of the biggest by far

is water baptism.

Some people will say, sure, Preston, I believe Jesus died and rose again, but I think you got to be baptized in water to be saved too.

Some will go so far as to say, you got to be baptized in our church to be saved, right?

They will.

You know what happens when you add something to the gospel message like water baptism, for example?

A couple of things happen.

First is

When you add something to it, whether it's a work or a ritual, I don't care what it is, it is an admission from you that you don't believe that what Jesus did is enough to pay for your sins.

That's the truth.

That's the bottom line.

Here's what else it does.

When you add something to the gospel, your faith and that which you add to the gospel, not the gospel itself, that's a fact.

Hey, at the end of the day, my friend, everyone needs to answer this question.

You believe that Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection, is that enough to pay for your sins?

How you answer that question determines where you spend eternity.

I believe, folks, what he did pays for sins.

He paid for our sins.

The question is,

Are you gonna accept that payment?

Everyone who stands before God someday is gonna present a payment for your sin.

He's not gonna allow sinners into heaven unjustified.

The question's gonna be, is your payment good enough?

And I can tell you, there's one payment God accepts and it's Jesus' death on the cross.

And thank God, thank God he did that.

He's the only one who could have done it and he didn't have to.

And he did it on our behalf.

And then 1/3 way believing in vain happens is putting your faith in an incorrect object.

And really the point of this is, here's how it happens practically with the gospel.

It's when people mess with the elements of the gospel and they change the message up.

Maybe they take away from who Jesus is, for example.

Maybe they say, well, he's not really God in the flesh or he didn't really rise from the dead.

Hey, that's not an insignificant thing when people do that.

It is a highly significant thing because it totally changes this message when you do that.

Because the central person of that message is the Lord Jesus Christ as the Bible presents him and nobody else, and not just anybody's version of Jesus, who the Bible says that he is.

So it is an important thing when you accept this gospel message, you accept it as it is, not adding anything to it, not taking anything away from it.

is as it is.

That's what believing in vain is.

If you believe something else, it's going to be in vain.

It's going to be without success.

Well, we looked about believing in vain.

Let's talk about believing.

Look over in Romans chapter 4.

Romans chapter 4 verse 3.

But we're going to skip down to verse 20 and 21 as well.

Paul really gives great instruction here on what believing or faith is.

In Romans chapter 4, here's what he says, verse 3, for what does the scripture say?

Abraham believed, there's that word, Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.

That word believe in New Testament Greek is the Greek word pestuo in the verb form.

I'm not a Greek scholar, I just looked it up, all right?

And all that word means pestuo

is to be persuaded.

You're persuaded of something.

In fact, you know how we would say it?

We would term it convinced.

We are convinced of something.

That's what he's saying here.

Abraham was convinced that what God said he would do, he would actually do.

And when that happens,

God credited to him righteousness.

Look at verse 20.

Yet with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God.

Now look at verse 21.

And being fully persuaded.

That word right there is a synonym for up in verse 3 when he says believed right there.

fully persuaded.

That's all faith means, is to be persuaded of something.

When it comes to faith unto salvation in the New Testament, it's being convinced that Jesus death on a cross, pays for your sin and nothing else, and that he did physically bodily die and physically body rise from the dead according to the scriptures.

That's faith unto salvation, to be convinced that he paid for your sins.

So to actually believe the gospel means that

you are persuaded that it's true because it is true.

Now let's look specifically, go back to 1 Corinthians 15, verses 3 and 4.

Let's look at the content of the gospel, the content of the gospel.

It says there that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures and he was buried and he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

Notice the elements here.

There are five of them.

We see who he is.

We see what he did.

We see why I need it.

We see how I get it and we see where it is found.

Those are the five things he mentioned here.

Well, what do I mean by these?

Well, it says, what do I mean who he is?

Well, the passage says Christ died for our sins.

Let me tell you who Paul's talking about here when he says Christ.

Here's who the Bible says Jesus is.

He is the Old Testament prophesied Messiah who was born of the Virgin, who lived a sinless life while he was on earth, who died physically, bodily on the cross for our sins.

He was buried.

By the way, that proved he died.

On the third day, he physically, bodily rose from the dead.

He's 100% man and 100% God.

He's God the Son, the second person of the Trinity.

He's the one and only way of salvation, and he's coming back again someday.

That's who Jesus Christ is.

And when Paul says Christ died for our sins, that's who he's talking about and nobody else.

You see why you can't monkey with who Jesus is?

This is who he is.

This is who the gospel says he is.

And part of accepting the gospel is accepting Jesus as he is.

Secondly, we see what he did and why I need it.

Well, what did he do?

He died, was buried and rose again.

Why do I need it?

It says he died for our sins.

Hey, one of my favorite words in this passage is that word for.

You know what that means?

It means on behalf of.

He died in my place.

He died in your place.

He died for your sins.

Isn't it amazing that God himself would take our sin upon himself and die a brutal death on the cross to pay for our sins?

That's what he did for us.

He paid for our sins.

So this shows us why we need it, doesn't it?

Says he died for our sins.

Hey, you know the Bible has a lot to say about the sinfulness of man.

Have you noticed that?

It does.

It's one of the unique features of the Bible amongst all other so-called holy books is its emphasis on the sinfulness of man.

But hey, not only does the Bible have a lot to say about the sinfulness of man, but we can see it in everyday life.

How many of you have children?

Did you ever have to teach them to sin?

You didn't, did you?

Did your parents ever have to teach you to sin?

I bet they didn't.

No, they didn't.

My parents didn't have to teach me to sin.

You know why?

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden that day, at that point, they passed down to their children what they had.

And what did they have at that point?

Sin.

and that passed on down to you and me.

And that is what we need deliverance from.

And that is what Jesus Christ died on the cross for, to pay for our sins on our behalf.

And then we also see how I get it.

We see it simply by accepting that he died on the cross for our sins and rose again.

It's by faith alone.

And then did you notice in this passage, you notice the only thing he mentions twice is according to the scriptures.

He says that twice.

Now, whenever you see something mentioned twice in a passage, pay attention to that.

has important, it's an important emphasis.

And in this case, it is very important.

Why does he say that?

You know, I've wondered, Paul, why do you mention that here in the point of the gospel that Jesus died and rose again?

Why do you say according to the scriptures here?

What's the point?

Well, it's very important.

He is stating his authority here.

This doesn't come from any man or denomination or religion.

This is what God says it takes to be saved.

Paul is stating this gospel according to the scriptures.

Now what's this mean for the unbeliever?

Am I saying that the unbeliever has to understand everything in the Bible in order to be saved?

No.

But you know what you can't do?

You can't say the Bible is untrustworthy and at the same time say you believe the gospel.

You know why?

Because where's the gospel found?

It's in the Bible.

They go together.

Am I saying you got to be an expert on the Bible?

No, but you need to accept in general that this is from God.

Therefore, this message, the gospel is from him.

Otherwise, why would you even believe it, right?

He is stating his authority here and it is very important.

And hey, proclaiming the gospel.

Did you notice in 1 Corinthians 15, 1 through 4, the emphasis here on proclaiming this?

He says more than once here that he makes a point here about communicating this message, that he declared it to them.

And the very fact that it is called the gospel assumes that it's going to be shared because it's a message.

And then he describes the message when he says first of all there that it is the top priority message.

Hey, as believers, it is assumed that we are to be sharing this gospel message

with the world.

And the biggest way I think the gospel is shared is you and me day in and day out, week in and week out, sharing the gospel, starting conversations with people in our circles.

And that's what I'd like to see more of.

And you know what I want to show you this afternoon as part of the training?

I want to show you a way to get into the conversation that you can remember, that's simple, that's winsome, that's respectful, and that's gospel centered.

Now does that sound interesting?

That's what we're going to do in the training this afternoon.

Proclaiming the gospel, I believe, is our mission as believers.

How many of you have at least one unbeliever in your life?

Yeah, we all do.

Hey, I bet someone came to mind when I asked you that.

You know what I want to encourage you to do?

Starting today, will you pray for that person?

Pray that they'd understand and believe the gospel for salvation.

you got that?

Pray that they'd understand and believe the gospel for salvation.

Start praying that for them.

And hey, in closing here, did you notice something here really important?

Did you notice what's not included in the gospel?

Sometimes with people communicating the gospel to them, it's important for them to see what's not included.

Notice what's not included.

He didn't mention anything about baptism, didn't mention anything about joining a church or good deeds or

going forward in an altar call, nothing about turning over a new leaf or asking Jesus into your heart, nothing like that.

No works or rituals.

He doesn't mention any of that.

You know why?

Look at Hebrews 9.22.

Here's why none of this is mentioned.

What does Hebrews 9.22 say?

Without the shedding of blood, there is what?

No remission, no forgiveness of sins.

That's why it's not included in the gospel message.

because no work and no ritual can pay for your sins.

No work or ritual can shed blood for you.

That's why it's not mentioned here.

Hey, here's a couple of important things about Hebrews 9.22 that I think you need to see.

First of all, we see how seriously God takes sin here, don't we?

That sin is so serious in the eyes of God that it takes the shedding of innocent blood to pay for it.

Secondly,

We see really important here, what pays for sins, one thing, the shed blood of Jesus.

And secondly, we see what does not pay for sins, nothing else does.

One thing pays for sins.

And the way you get that payment applied to your account is accepting it for you.

And here's the other thing.

I love this about Hebrews 9.22.

It shows us the grace and the mercy of God because he's the one who paid the price for our sins.

Wow.

He's the one who shed the blood when it should have been me receiving that.

Now that is some grace and mercy right there.

anytime anyone tells me, I'll close with this, anytime anyone tells me, and I've been told this a lot through the years, that I got to do some kind of work or ritual to get the forgiveness of sins.

I got to come back to Hebrews 9.22.

And there's a couple of critical questions I've got to ask with that which you tell me I have to do.

First of all, that which you tell me I have to do, is there the shedding of blood involved?

Secondly, can there be the forgiveness of sins then?

Let me take a couple as an example.

I've got several listed here.

Let me take just a couple and we'll be done, okay?

How about water baptism?

Is there the shedding of blood involved in water baptism?

Hopefully not, right?

No, there isn't.

So then according to Hebrews 9, 22, can there be the forgiveness of sins by doing water baptism?

By actually doing the act?

No.

No, there can't.

How about joining a church?

Is there the shedding of blood involved with joining a church?

If there is, go somewhere else, right?

No, there isn't the shedding of blood in joining a church.

So there cannot be the forgiveness of sins by doing the act of joining a church.

No matter how good someone thinks that is, there's no saving value there.

Okay?

How about

confessing Christ or making a commitment to God or surrendering your life to him.

Is there the shedding of blood involved with making a commitment to God?

Is there?

No, there isn't.

Can there then be the forgiveness of sins from that?

Hey, if you want to talk about devotion to God, that is a Christian life thing.

It's not a getting saved thing.

Why?

Because when we're talking about getting saved here, it's getting the forgiveness of sins.

And that's what Jesus died for.

And nothing else is required because nothing else is good enough.

Okay?

Some people tell me this.

Let me take this one.

I think it's one that's often misunderstood.

I've been told this a lot in my life.

You got to repent of all of your sins as if you have to clean yourself up, reform yourself,

then accept Jesus and you can be saved.

Now let's...

Let's address that because this is a critical one here.

First of all, you know what the Greek word for repent in the New Testament is?

It's the word metanoia.

And all that word means is to change your mind.

And let me tell you how it works when it comes to salvation.

It is not, first of all, it's not you promising God you're going to stop sinning and do better.

Okay, because what the truth of the matter is, you cannot do that good enough to his quality that he requires.

You know what his quality is?

Sinlessness.

Can you clean yourself up to sinlessness?

And even if you could, it make up for past sins?

No.

So what does that word

Repent means metanoia, to change your mind.

And I tell you, here's how it happens with salvation.

Everybody, everybody, before they accept the gospel, believe in something else, whether it's works or rituals or nothing at all.

their faith in something else.

And everybody, everybody, when they understand that Jesus died for their sins and rose again, and that's what pays for sins and that's enough, when everybody understands and believes that, they change their mind from believing this, which doesn't save, to believing in that which does save.

That is metanoia, a change of mind and acceptance of what's true.

Repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin, but it is not, listen to me, it is not you promising God you're gonna turn over some kind of a new leaf.

Okay?

That's not what it is.

It's going from unbelief to saving faith.

That's what it is.

And everybody, I tell you, everybody who gets saved repents, but it's not how a lot of people explain it.

Okay?

Finally,

Jesus' death on the cross, is there the shedding of blood involved there?

Yes, there is.

there forgiveness there?

Yes, there is.

And it's the only place.

You know why we say we believe only one way?

You know why Jesus said he's the only way?

Because he knew and we know what the Bible says, that that's the only thing that can pay for sins in God's eyes.

Okay?

That's why we say there's only one way.

Not because we want to win in arguments,

or we want to be thought of as the best.

No, It's because Jesus' death on a cross actually literally paid for sins and that's the only thing that does.

So let me ask you something.

Those of you that think you have to do something to get saved, whether it's a work or a ritual, let me ask you this.

Do you really think that Jesus would have come, fulfilled all those prophecies about his first coming, including being born of the virgin, living a sinless life, dying physically, bodily on the cross, expressly to pay for sins, rising from the dead, proving who he was?

You think he would do all of that expressly to pay for sins and then ask or expect you to do something else to get the forgiveness of your sins?

No way.

Hey, the whole reason Jesus came was to die to pay for our sins because he's the only one who could do it.

And he did and he didn't have to.

So the question is, my friend, what are you going to do with what he's done for you?

Are you going to accept it?

Are you going to believe in something else that doesn't save?

That's the question.