

1

**Series Theme Slide**



**Can I  
see  
your  
receipt?**

**2**

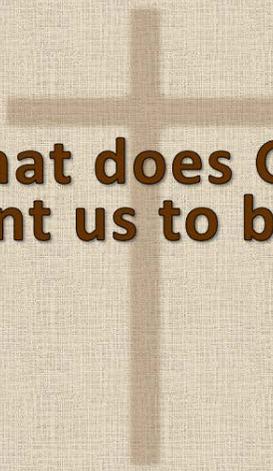
**I make a mistake almost every time I leave a warehouse store like Costco. I put my receipt away in my wallet.**

**-- But they won't let you out of the store without showing your receipt.**

**-- It doesn't matter that what is in the cart is paid for, if I can't prove that the bill has been covered, I'm stuck.**

**-- In a real sense, that is what Resurrection Sunday is about. It is the receipt that the payment has been made and accepted.**

**TR: But, let's take a few steps backward, and pull out a huge shopping cart and go looking for what we need in aisles.**

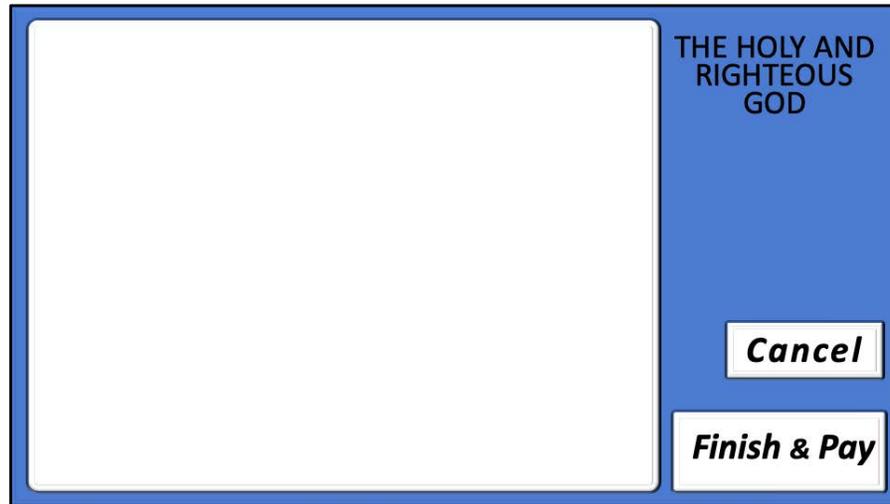


**What does God  
want us to buy?**

3

**God the Father has life-in-Himself, as does Jesus the Son.  
-- He created us in His image, for a healthy relationship with Him.  
-- What He wants us to put into our shopping carts are the LIFE Essentials . . . those things that are core to us living the good life.  
-- They are not unnecessary gadgets or do-dads. They are not frivolous luxuries.**

**TR: Let's see what He wants us to buy. We'll do that by . . .**



4

... imagining that we've gone shopping with the Holy Spirit as our guide. He's pointed out what we need.  
-- And now, we are unloading our cart at the checkout, looking at the screen as each code is read and the item comes up.

**TR: God the Father sent the Son, Jesus, to the Cross of Good Friday for many reasons. One of those is captured in 1 Peter 2 . . .**

**1 Peter 2:21**

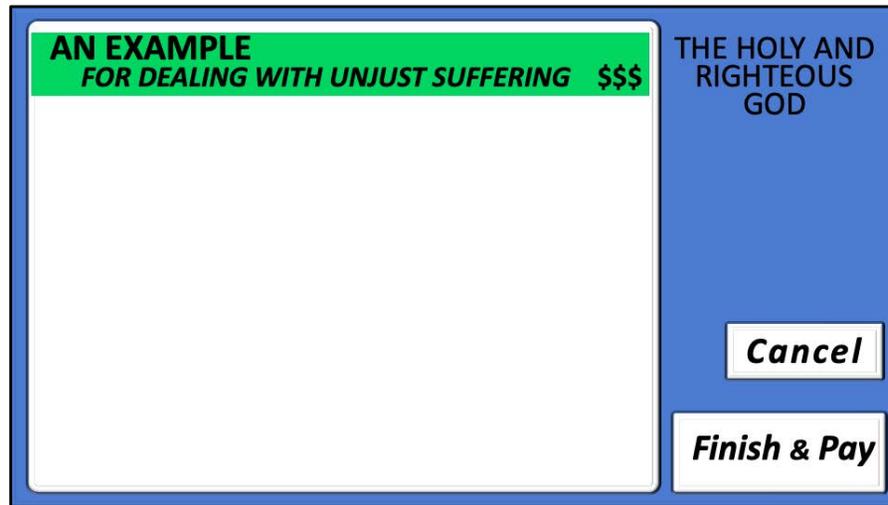
For to this you have been called,  
because Christ also suffered for you,  
**leaving you an example**, so that you  
might follow in his steps.

*ESV*

5

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: Jesus' suffering on the Cross buys for us . . .**



6

... an example.

-- It is an example we need to help us in this life when we face unjust suffering.

-- We know that the suffering of this world is caused by the impact of the sin of humanity, and sometimes the specific sins of individuals.

-- And while we all deserve hell, because of our sin, there is still the reality of unjust suffering.

-- This is especially true at the hands of others, perhaps those who persecute us with their words and actions.

-- The Holy Spirit says, "Put this in your cart. You need it."

TR: In a world where our role models disappoint us again and again, we need an example whose steps are worth following.

**Ephesians 5:1-2**

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, as **Christ loved us and gave himself up for us**, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

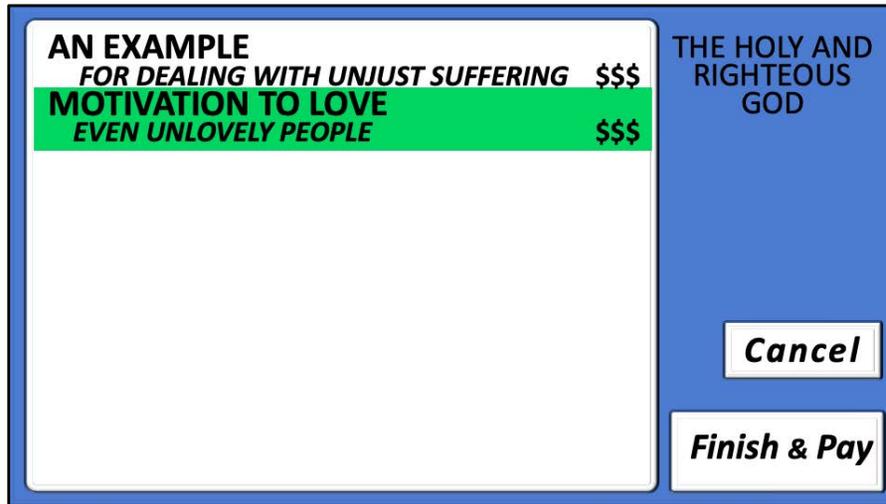
*ESV*

7

**As we follow Jesus' example, we also find something else. As the Apostle Paul tells us . . . READ SLIDE**

- Jesus died on the cross, giving himself up for us, out of love.**
- When we are unsure God loves us, we need to come again to the cross.**
- When we deal with cancer. When we deal with car accidents. When we deal with unlovely people. We must come to the cross.**

**TR: And when we do, we find that Jesus offers us . . .**



8

**... the motivation to love ... even unlovely people.**

**-- Jesus' love, offering Himself as a fragrant offering and sacrifice, can motivate us to love people, who are even still sinning against us.**

**-- People we might call our "enemies."**

**TR: The shopping list of the LIFE Essentials has more on it than just Jesus as an example and motivation.**

**Mark 10:45**

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a **ransom** for many.

*ESV*

9

**Numerous Bible passages talk about His death on the cross as a ransom . . . READ SLIDE**

**TR: Peter, who likely oversaw Mark as he wrote his gospel account, says in his first letter . . .**

**1 Peter 1:18-19**

... knowing that you were **ransomed** from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

*ESV*

10

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: This ransom is available to all . . .**

**1 Timothy 2:5-6**

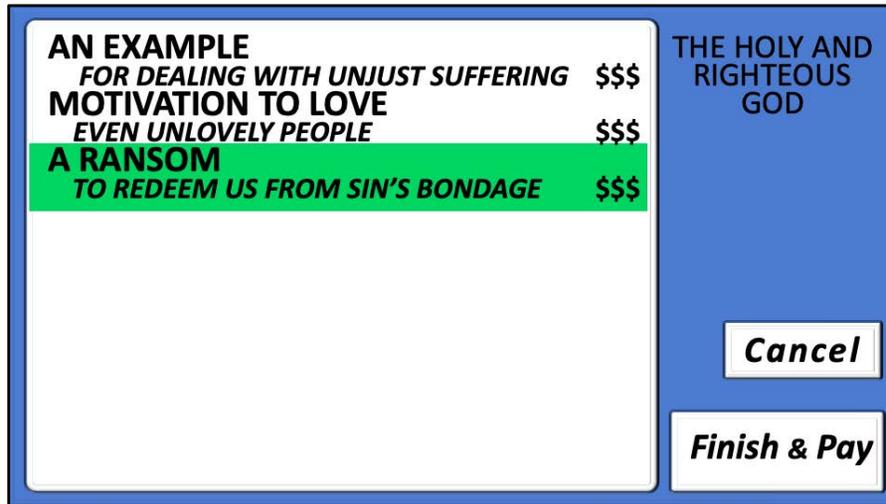
For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as **a ransom for all**, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

*ESV*

11

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: A look at the screen at the checkout reveals the LIFE Essential of . . .**



12

- READ SLIDE . . . is what the Holy Spirit told us to put in our cart.**
- The Bible uses the imagery of a ransom and redemption from the slave markets that were so common in Jesus' day.
  - God, the Holy and Righteous God, doesn't want His people to be in slavery.
  - Not only freedom from literal slavery or any kind of oppressive human trafficking . . .
  - . . . but also the bondage to sin.
  - Let's admit that we all are powerless to break free from the taskmaster of the sins that so easily beset us.
  - We may mock others, who struggle with sins different than the ones we battle against.
  - But, we have all gone astray, and left to ourselves, we will always go astray.

**TR: A LIFE essential is a freedom to not be overcome by sin, and therefore be enslaved to that sin.**

**1 Corinthians 15:55-57**

**"O death, where is your victory?  
O death, where is your sting?"**

**<sup>56</sup>The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup>But thanks be to God, who gives us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*ESV*

13

**God wants us to buy from Him Victory . . . READ SLIDE  
-- Victory over death.**

**TR: And victory over the devil who had the power of death, as Hebrews 2:14 says. Then in Colossians, Paul writes . . .**

**Colossians 2:13-15**

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by **triumphing over them** in him.

*ESV*

14

**READ SLIDE**

- We have been made alive,
- The record of debt as been canceled.
- The spiritual rulers and authorities have been triumphed over.

**TR: God wants us to have . . .**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
<i>EVEN UNLOVELY PEOPLE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>A RANSOM</b>		
<i>TO REDEEM US FROM SIN'S BONDAGE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>VICTORY</b>		
<i>TO FREE US FROM SATAN'S OPPRESSION</i>	\$\$\$	
		<i>Cancel</i>
		<i>Finish &amp; Pay</i>

## READ SLIDE

- In our sophisticated culture, we hear our world say that what we see is all there is.
- Yet, we know that there is more.
- We know that there is a battle going on . . . with forces that are not flesh and blood.
- Jesus' work on the cross, what theologians would call the Atonement, accomplished for us more than just these 4 marvelous things.
- The central and most important biblical image is of a penal substitutionary death.
- TR: That's a fancy way of saying Jesus paid our penalty as a substitutionary sacrifice.

**1 Peter 3:18**

For Christ also suffered once for sins,  
**the righteous for the unrighteous**, that  
he might bring us to God, being put to  
death in the flesh but made alive in  
the spirit,

*ESV*

16

**READ SLIDE**

-- The righteous Jesus is the substitute for the unrighteous us.

TR: The beautiful prophecy, of some 700 years before Jesus came to earth, put it this way . . .

**Isaiah 53:5**

**But he was pierced for our  
transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that  
brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.**

*ESV*

17

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: V. 6**

**Isaiah 53:6**

**All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—every one—  
to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.**

*ESV*

18

**READ SLIDE**

**-- Like the sacrifices of the Old Mosaic covenant pictured for us,  
Jesus the Suffering Servant carried our sins.**

**TR: God was just because His holy anger, His righteous wrath, was  
turned away by this substitutionary sacrifice.**

**Romans 3:22b-25a**

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, 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.

*ESV*

19

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: John, the disciple closest to Jesus, said it this way . . .**

**1 John 2:1-2**

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>He is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*ESV*

20

### **READ SLIDE**

-- God wants you to have this in your cart. Can't you hear the Holy Spirit speaking to your heart . . . "Put it in the cart!"

**TR: Jesus, our Advocate and our propitiation, the sacrifice that turns away wrath, was motivated by love.**

**1 John 4:10**

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins.

*ESV*

21

**READ SLIDE**

**TR: A LIFE Essential that we all need, if we are honest, is . . .**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
<i>EVEN UNLOVELY PEOPLE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>A RANSOM</b>		
<i>TO REDEEM US FROM SIN'S BONDAGE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>VICTORY</b>		
<i>TO FREE US FROM SATAN'S OPPRESSION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>THE SACRIFICE</b>		
<i>TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR GUILT</i>	\$\$\$	
		<i>Cancel</i>
		<i>Finish &amp; Pay</i>

## READ SLIDE

- We all have a sense of guilt.
- If we have ever been angry with someone else for how they treated us, we have some sense of right and wrong. Not everything is right.
- Some may be guided by what the Bible says is right and wrong, others only by their own consciences. But I have never found anyone who would say that they have never done wrong.
- If we feel guilt because we can't keep our own rules of right and wrong, imagine the level of guilt we all have for not keeping God's perfect standards.
- We have guilt for doing wrong . . . and for not doing right.
- God wants us to have the LIFE Essential of knowing our sins have been paid for. The debt we owed has been canceled.

TR: The grocery cart is really big. There's even more the Holy Spirit want us to put in our carts.

**Romans 3:26b**

. . . so that (God) might be just and the **justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.

*ESV*

23

**In Romans, the Apostle Paul says . . . READ SLIDE**

**TR: God wants to be our justifier.**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		<b>THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD</b>
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
<i>EVEN UNLOVELY PEOPLE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>A RANSOM</b>		
<i>TO REDEEM US FROM SIN'S BONDAGE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>VICTORY</b>		
<i>TO FREE US FROM SATAN'S OPPRESSION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>THE SACRIFICE</b>		
<i>TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR GUILT</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>RIGHTEOUSNESS</b>		
<i>FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION</i>	\$\$\$	
		<b>Cancel</b>
		<b>Finish &amp; Pay</b>

When this is rung up at the check out, it reads . . . **READ SLIDE**  
 -- He wants to have us take home that not only are our sins paid for . . .  
 -- but, additionally, that all of Jesus' righteousness has been credited to our account.  
 -- We are not slaves anymore. We are not paupers anymore. We have the riches of Christ as our own.

**TR: God wants us to take down from the shelves the incredible purchase of new life.**

**John 1:12-13**

**But to all who did receive (Jesus), who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

*ESV*

25

**John records . . . READ SLIDE**

**-- We are all born physically . . . but Jesus wants us to be born again.**

**-- The Holy Spirit says, "You've got to put this in your cart!"**

**-- A bit later, in John 3:3, "Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.""**

**TR: God wants us to put . . .**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		<b>THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD</b>
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
<i>EVEN UNLOVELY PEOPLE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>A RANSOM</b>		
<i>TO REDEEM US FROM SIN'S BONDAGE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>VICTORY</b>		
<i>TO FREE US FROM SATAN'S OPPRESSION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>THE SACRIFICE</b>		
<i>TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR GUILT</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>RIGHTEOUSNESS</b>		<b>Cancel</b>
<i>FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>NEW LIFE</b>		
<i>SO WE COULD BE BORN AGAIN</i>	\$\$\$	<b>Finish &amp; Pay</b>

... new life up on the check out counter.

-- The kingdom of God is here but not yet in its fullness.

-- We are talking about the eternal kingdom that will be manifest when Jesus comes again.

-- To have eternal life, to be able to approach the death of our earthly bodies with hope, we must know that we have been born again in such a way that we can never die.

TR: The storehouse of God's grace is so big, there's even more for us.

**John 1:12-13**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ **reconciled us to himself** and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

*ESV*

27

**Because of what Jesus did for us, we know that God wants us.  
-- He wants us in a personal relationship with Him.  
-- READ SLIDE**

**TR: God wants us to buy a restored relationship with Him. We moved away, He wants us to come back. And not as some kind of slave or indentured servant, no . . .**

**Ephesians 1:4d-6**

In love <sup>5</sup>(God) predestined us for **adoption to himself** as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

*ESV*

28

**. . . as His children . . . heirs.**

**-- READ SLIDE**

**-- Adoption as sons, whether we are male or female, because in that culture it was almost always the sons who received the inheritance.**

**TR: God considers it a LIFE Essential, that is, a staple of true life, as it was meant to be lived, to have . . .**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
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<i>TO FREE US FROM SATAN'S OPPRESSION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>THE SACRIFICE</b>		
<i>TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR GUILT</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>RIGHTEOUSNESS</b>		Cancel
<i>FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>NEW LIFE</b>		Finish & Pay
<i>SO WE COULD BE BORN AGAIN</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>CLOSENESS TO GOD</b>		
<i>RECONCILIATION &amp; ADOPTION</i>	\$\$\$	

... closeness to Him.

-- He wants us to buy reconciliation, being brought back into a relationship with Himself.

-- He wants us to buy adoption, being made part of His forever family.

-- Doesn't all this sound fantastic? Can you imagine how different your life would be if you had all these things?

-- Don't you just want to grab your cart and fly down the aisles, grabbing these good things left and right?

-- There you are at the checkout. Everything has been scanned. You can't wait to get home with all these blessings.

TR: But then there is the rub. The horrible moment at the

**checkout . . .**

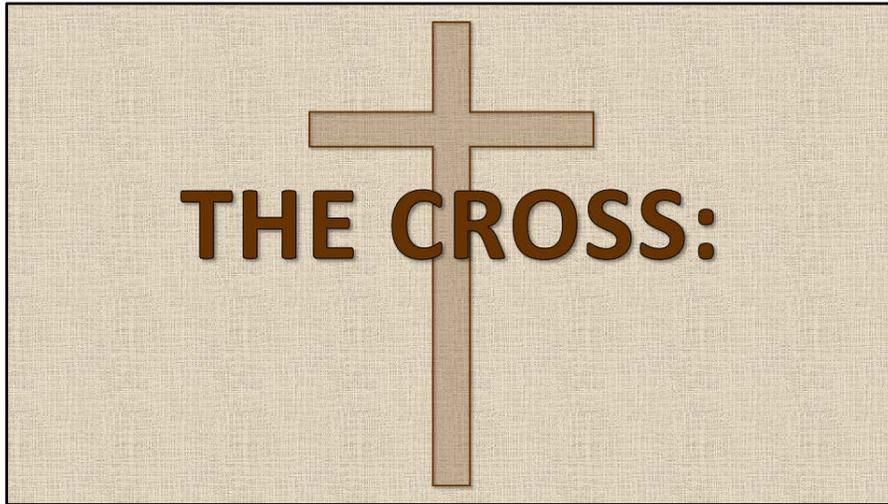
**29**

<b>AN EXAMPLE</b>		<b>THE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS GOD</b>
<i>FOR DEALING WITH UNJUST SUFFERING</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>MOTIVATION TO LOVE</b>		
<i>EVEN UNLOVELY PEOPLE</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>A RANSOM</b>		
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<b>RIGHTEOUSNESS</b>		
<i>FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>NEW LIFE</b>		
<i>SO WE COULD BE BORN AGAIN</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>CLOSENESS TO GOD</b>		
<i>RECONCILIATION &amp; ADOPTION</i>	\$\$\$	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>===</b>	<b>Cancel</b>
		<b>Finish &amp; Pay</b>

And we hit, "Finish and Pay."

- God wants us to buy all these things.
- They are not luxuries. These are LIFE Essentials to live the kind of life we were created to live.
- But, the horror is that there is nothing in our wallets.
- All our righteousness is like filthy rags, as the prophet Jeremiah tells us.
- We've got no cash. The cards we run through the chip reader are taken by the cashier and cut in two . . . we have no credit.
- What can we do?

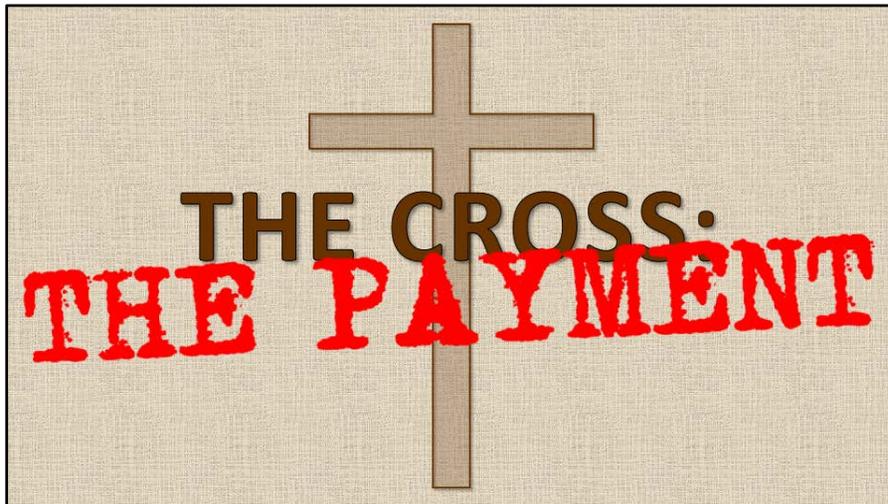
TR: What we've been doing this morning is looking at the atoning work of Jesus and what it accomplished for us.



**The great news is that on Good Friday, Jesus the Son of God, died on the Cross.**

**-- Not for His sin, because He had no debt.**

**TR: But to make . . .**



**. . . The Payment . . . for us.**

**-- His death was like someone coming up to us when we can't pay at the checkout . . . and paying our bill.**

**-- Jesus so wanted us to have His example, His love, redemption from the bondage of sin, triumph over the forces of darkness, a washing away of our guilt.**

**-- He so wanted us to have such a full cart that He added clothing us in His righteousness, causing us to be born again so that we could see the eternal kingdom of God, and drawing close to Himself now through the presence of the Holy Spirit . . . and someday, face to face.**

**-- Jesus so loved us that He paid the bill for what we always wanted and needed.**

**TR: You may think, "That's what Good Friday is all about. But today is Sunday."**



**That's right, it is Resurrection Sunday.  
-- It is the day we say to each other . . . HE IS RISEN . . . HE IS  
RISEN INDEED. (3x)**

**TR: What are we celebrating?**



**We celebrate that the resurrection of Jesus from the dead gives us the receipt that the payment He made on Good Friday was accepted by the Holy and Righteous God, His Father.**

**-- The resurrection from the dead sets Jesus apart from all the other religious teachers and philosophers.**

**-- They may offer lots of things in their infomercial-like claims, but while we can fill our carts with their promises . . . we can't get out of the store because we don't have a receipt.**

**TR: In the great resurrection chapter, 1 Corinthians 15, we read . .**

**.**

**1 Corinthians 15:17-19**

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

*ESV*

35

**READ SLIDE**

- Without the receipt, it doesn't matter if we claim Jesus the Christ paid our bill.
- We still can't get the LIFE Essentials out of the store. Just like in Costco . . . no receipt, no leaving with the blessings.
- We can't take home with us the "capital H HOPE" that even death cannot destroy.
- If we have no resurrection, we have no receipt. And that makes us of all people, most to be pitied.
- We are standing by the door, our cart is overflowing with things we need and want, things that made our hearts thrill with hope.
- But without the receipt, in the most pitiful way imaginable, we must leave the cart and just go back to our little lives.
- We go back to our bondage, our pathetic levels of love, our guilt, our shame, waiting to die.

**TR: But, the historical evidence is overwhelming, HE IS RISEN.**

33



## WE CAN HAVE THE RECEIPT!

- We've printed for you these simple paper receipts.
- They are tokens to remind us that God wants to lavish on us, through His amazing grace, all of these blessings of the Atonement.
- He knew that even if we saw that we really needed and should want these LIFE essentials, that we couldn't afford them.
- So He sent His Son to pay the price . . . in FULL . . . and we have the receipt that the payment was made and accepted.

(NEXT SLIDE SAME AS THIS ONE)



- As we celebrate through the singing of the next song, won't you come up and take a receipt for yourself?
- If you physically can't, please just nudge the person next to you to do so for you.
- What I hope you will be saying to God by doing so is two-fold . . .
  - (1) that you are today turning away from your sins and turning in trust to Jesus Christ work, His death and resurrection, for all the blessings of the Atonement.
  - Remember, there are many more blessings than these . . . but doesn't your heart yearn for these?
  - (2) OR that you are worshipping Jesus, marveling afresh that His death and resurrection has made possible your eternal life, a new life as God's child.
- Let us not minimize how valuable the receipt is. Without the payment of Good Friday, there would be no receipt of Resurrection Sunday.
- With no receipt of the resurrection, it would never have been declared that Jesus' work PAID IT ALL.

Don't get stopped at the door, having only heard about the riches of God's grace but leaving a pauper, because you would not admit that you can't pay your own debt.

**“HE IS RISEN . . . HE IS RISEN INDEED.”**

**37**