



THE IMPLICATIONS OF JESUS

#### **Week 4- “Why was the Cross Necessary?”**

**In this week’s message, we ask why does sin separate us from God and why did Jesus have to die? The answer to these questions has huge implications for our life and eternity.**

**Read Mark 8:31 and 1 John 2:1-2**

1. Have you ever wondered why it is said that sin separates us from God and why Jesus had to die for those sins? What conclusions have you come to on your own?
2. If God is loving why couldn't He just simply forgive our sins? Why was the cross necessary? Is this something you have a hard time understanding?

**Isaiah 59:2 says: “*But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you...*”**

3. What tensions do you feel around the idea that your sin separates you from God? Do you agree that if someone sins it should separate them from God?
4. In what ways have you experienced a separation in a relationship because of something that was done that hurt you or did not meet an expectation you had?

Romans 6:23 says: “*For the wages of sin is death BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.*”

5. Discuss the truth that God knew that our sin separates us from Him, and because He is a just and loving God He had to do something to reconcile us to Himself.
6. Has it been hard for you to acknowledge that you are a sinner in need of a Savior? Why or why not?

7. Do you feel judged by others when the reality of sin is talked about in Christian circles? Share your experience with this.

8. How does Jesus' death help you see that God loves you so much that He doesn't want you to be judged but instead justified through faith in Him?

**Read Romans 3:22-26**

9. What does Jesus' death mean for your past, present, and future?

10. If you have put your faith in Jesus how can you rest in the truth that you have been forgiven and your sin does not define you?

11. If you have not put your faith in Jesus and you are ready to do that will you tell Him this week and tell someone else? If you are not ready to take that step of faith would you be willing to talk through your thoughts with someone in your life?

**Jesus had to die in order to provide a way for you and me no matter what we have done, to be reconciled with God. His death and resurrection made a way for your sin and mine to be forgiven once and for all. When we choose to put our faith in Jesus and trust Him for what He has done then nothing can separate us from God, NOTHING!**