

Message: The Week Before

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

"No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down of my own accord." John 10:18

1. AT THE CROSS, OUR GUILT IS DECLARED PARDONED.

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

1 Peter 2:23-24

2. IN JESUS, GOD HAD DONE SOMETHING NOBODY COULD HAVE EVER EXPECTED.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

3. IN THE CROSS, JESUS BLOOD GIVES US LIFE.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

...without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin. Hebrews 9:22

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise. Psalm 51:16-17

4. THROUGH THE CROSS, THE GRAVE IS OVERTHROWN.

...our struggle is not against flesh and blood... Ephesians 6:12

...having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Colossians 2:15

5. ON THE CROSS, WE SEE THE MEASURE OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US.

Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:7-8

6. THE CROSS BRINGS PEOPLE TO A DECISION, A CROSSROADS LIKE NO OTHER DEATH.

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20