

Need for a tree

In the Garden of Eden there was tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said Adam and Eve were not meant to eat of it, but the enemy tempted them by sowing doubt in their minds and got them to the point of eating the fruit.

There are two types of people in this world. Those who think the story of Jesus on the cross is just that- a story. A nice idea but not true. Then there is group two, those who believe Jesus really existed, died on a cross for our sins and redemption and was raised from the dead. All real, all powerful! Miraculous, nonfiction.

The cross proves 3 things. One, that God is in control. And, two, that God always keeps His promises. And three that God loves and is relational.

1) GOD IS IN CONTROL- He is not controlling

Proverbs 16:1 *"We may make our plans but God has the last word."*

Ephesians 1:20 *"God's great power is available to help us who believe in Him. It is the same mighty power that raised Christ."*

John 14: 27 *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Ponder:

What's out of control in your life?

What is it that you say, "No matter how hard I try it's not getting together?"

I want my career to go in this direction, but it's not going that way.

There are habits in my life that I want to break and I just can't break them.

There are good habits I want to develop, but I don't seem to have the willpower to get it going."

What is it in your life that you'd like to change and you can't?

Even with my best efforts, it's not working.

Maybe it's with your kids, your health, your finances.

2) **HE KEEPS HIS PROMISES** (God is faithful and trustworthy)

Num. 23:19 (GWT)

“God isn’t like people. He doesn’t change His mind. When He says something He does it. And when He makes a promise He keeps it.”

1 Peter 1:4-5 (LB)

“God has reserved for His children the priceless gift of eternal life that is kept in heaven for you. And God will make sure that you get there safely to receive it because you’re trusting Him.”

3) **GOD IS LOVE** (He is relational)

John 3 : 16:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

God wants to have a relationship with us. Not a bunch of rules and regulations. A RELATIONSHIP.