

Why did Jesus have to die?

GCC YG - MAR 15, 2026

abounding grace

the lasting power of the Cross

ROMANS 5:18 - 6:2

Romans 5 ESV

*¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to **justification** and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.*

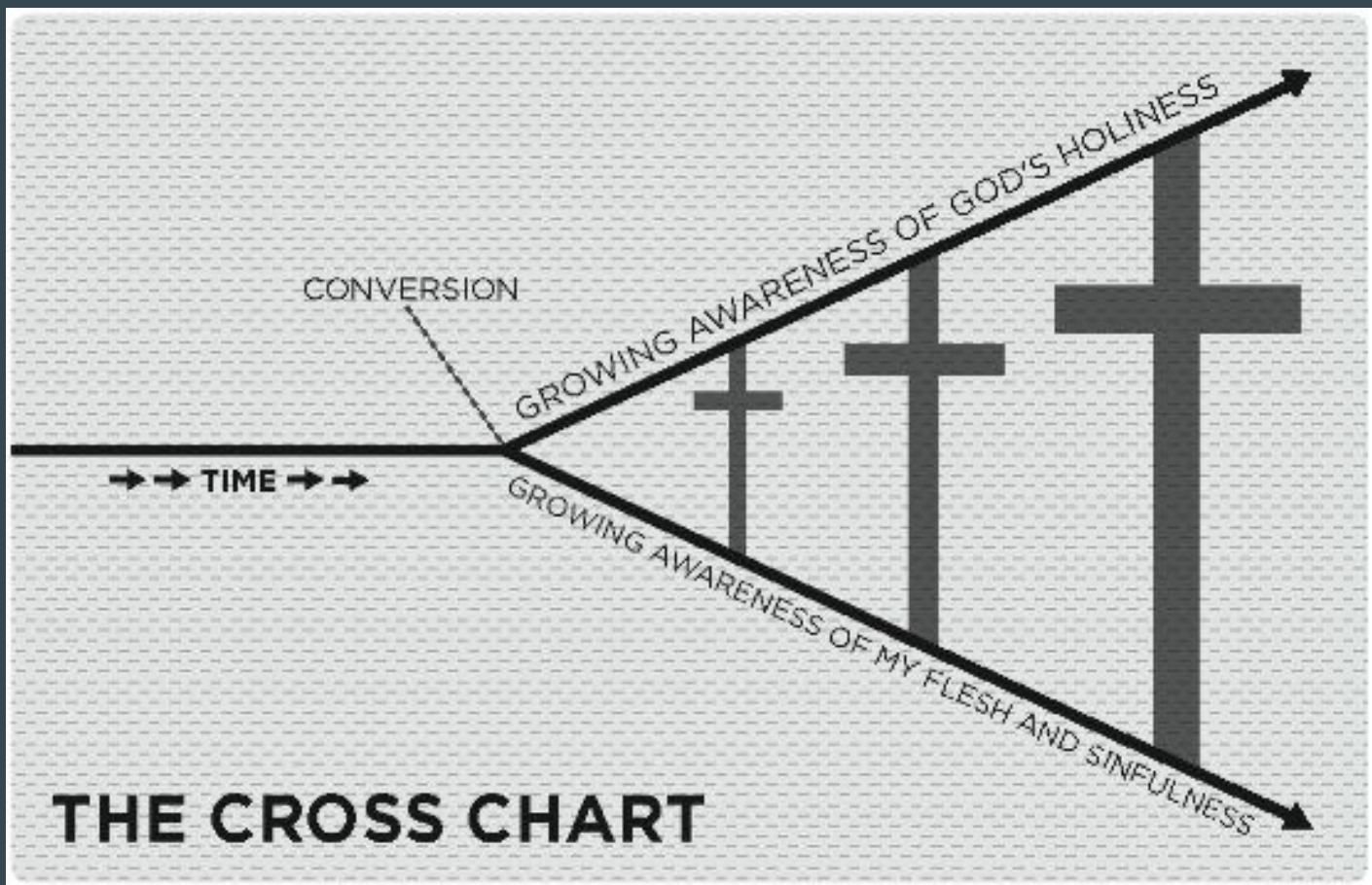
Romans 5 ESV

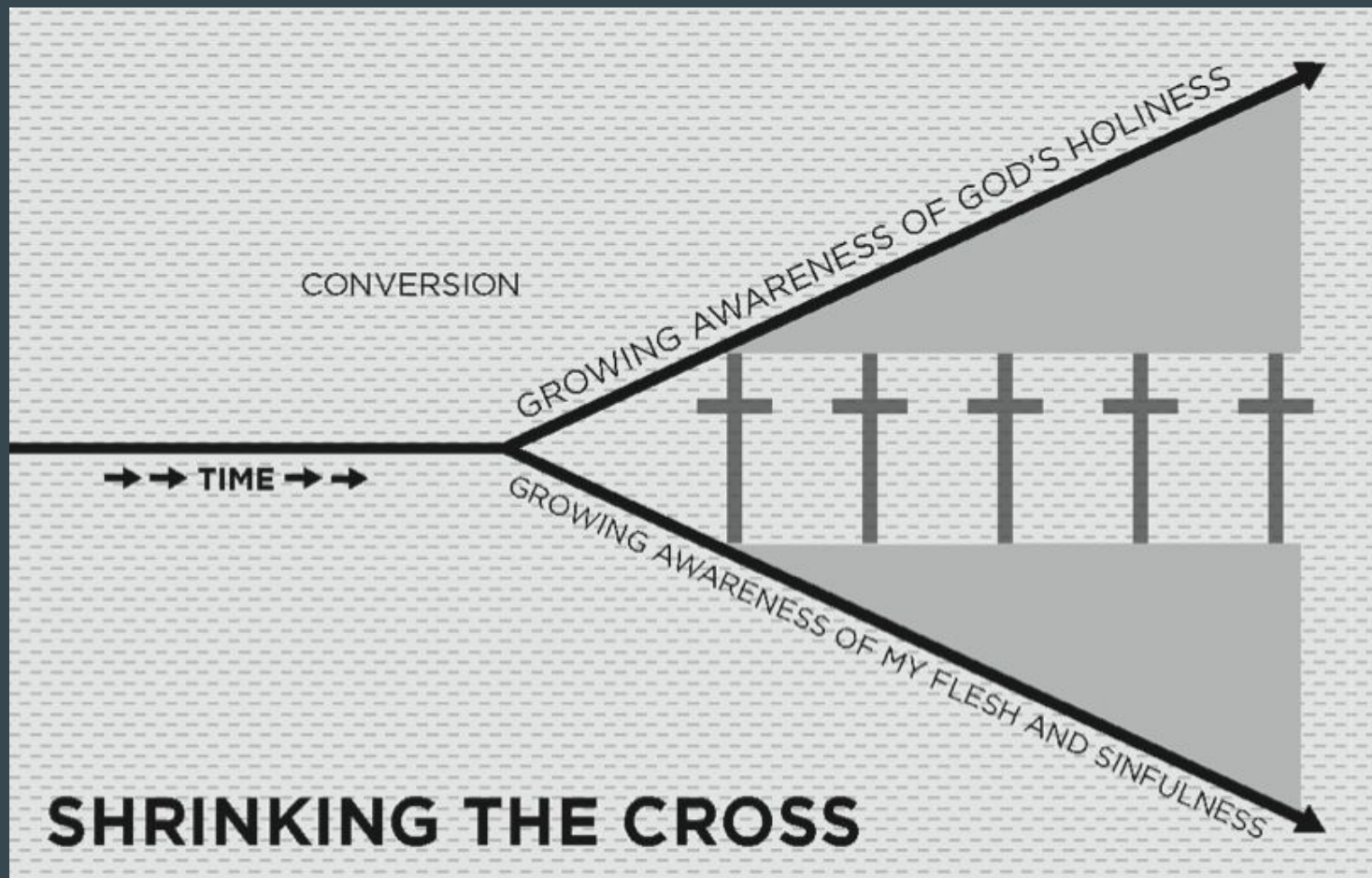
²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, **but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,** ²¹ So that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

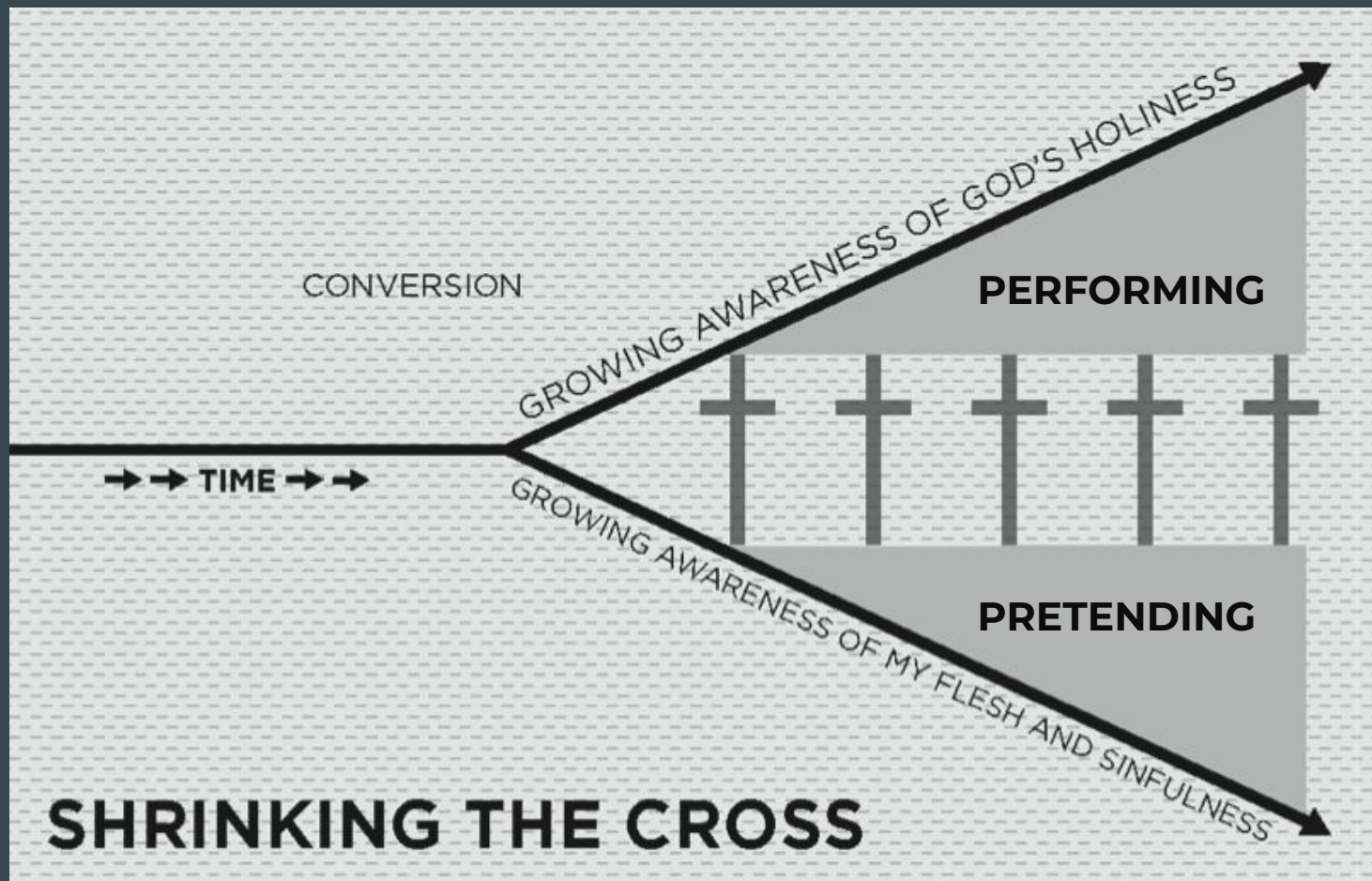
Romans 6:1-2 ESV

¹ *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?*

² ***By no means!*** *How can we who died to sin still live in it?*







Performing

Religiosity

Legalism

Bitterness

Pride

Self-justification

Minimizing sin

Pretending

Hiddenness

Shame

Guilt

Insecurity

Fear

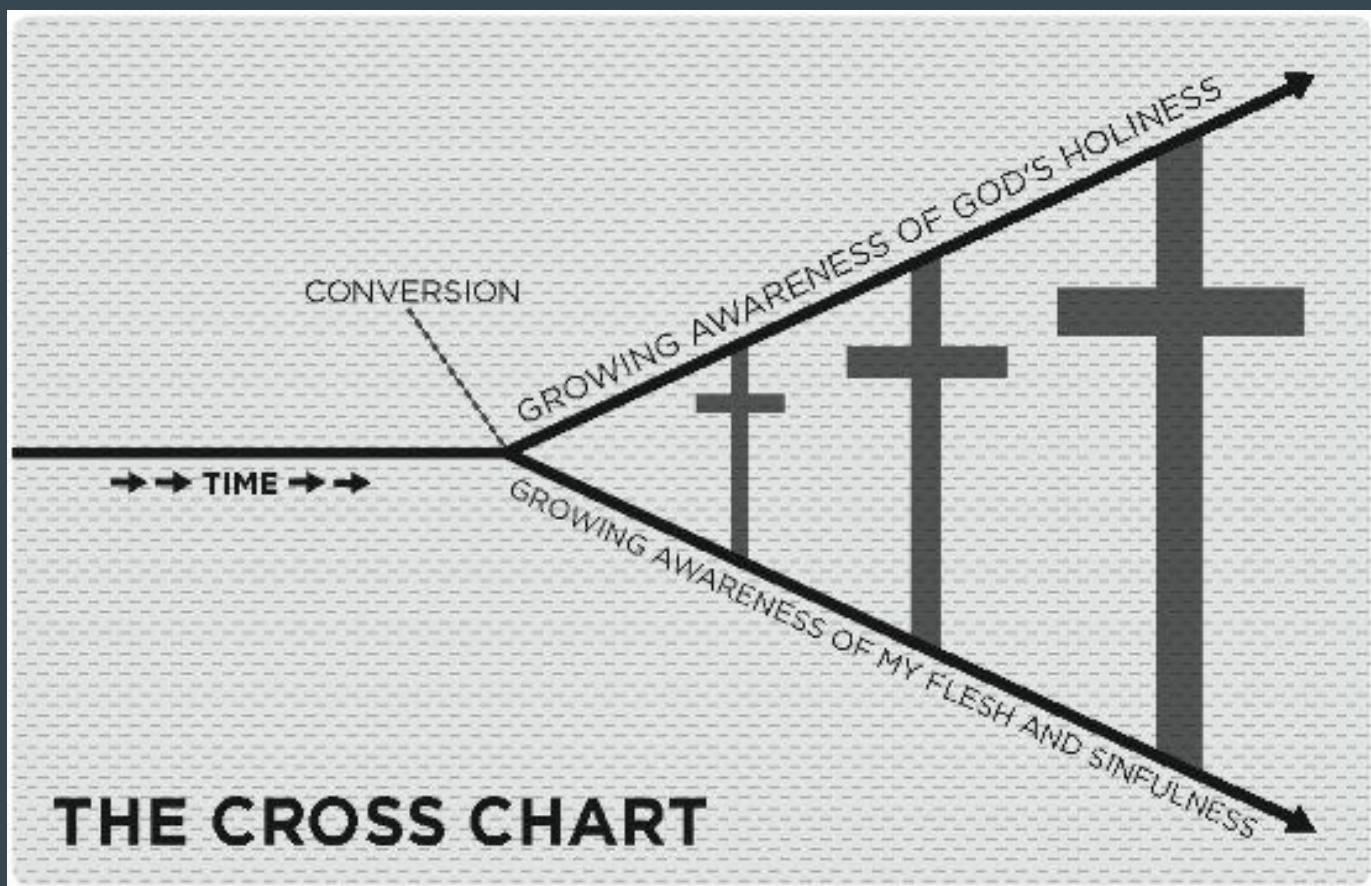
Minimizing sin

James 4:8-10 ESV

⁸ *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.* ⁹ ***Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.*** ¹⁰ *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*

Ephesians 3:16-19 NIV

*¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, **to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,** ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*



Small Group Questions

- What stood out to you from today's message?
- What are some reasons that people struggle to accept that God is just? What are some truths that can soften that struggle?
- How do you think God wants us to feel when we sin?
- Share about a way that God redeemed your sin and distance from Him to bring you closer to Him.
- In your time as a Christian, do you think your understanding of the gospel has steadily grown, or stayed about the same?
- Are there any ways that you are currently shrinking the Cross in your life by pretending or performing?