

SUNDAY MORNING MESSAGE – 020115
SERIES: THE CROSS OF CHRIST
WEEK 1 – THE NECESSITY OF THE CROSS

1 Corinthians 15:3 (ESV)

*For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,*

Galatians 6:14 (ESV)

*But far be it from me to boast **except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

1 Corinthians 1:18 (ESV)

*For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the **power of God.***

1. GOD IS HOLY BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION

*" [God's Holiness] refers to His majesty and His perfect moral purity.
There is absolutely no sin or evil thought in God at all.
His holiness is the definition of that which is pure and righteous in all the universe".
–A. W. TOZER*

A. GOD'S WORD SAYS HE IS HOLY

*Psalm 99:9b (ESV) - ... for **the LORD our God is holy!***

B. HOLINESS IS WHO GOD IS

Isaiah 57:15a (ESV)

*15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose **name is Holy** . . .*

C. HIS HOLINESS IS BEYOND ANY OTHER

Isaiah 6:3 (ESV)

3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

2. YOU'RE SINFUL AND IT'S WORSE THAN YOU THINK.

A. OUR SIN BEGAN IN THE GARDEN

Romans 5:12,19 (ESV)

12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned . . . 19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners. . .

B. NO PERSON IS WITHOUT SIN

1 John 1:8 (ESV)

8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C. SIN HAS CORRUPTED US TO THE CORE

Romans 7:18 (ESV)

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

3. SINFULNESS AND HOLINESS CAN'T COEXIST

Isaiah 6:5 (ESV)

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Isaiah 59:2 (ESV)

but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (ESV)

*3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who **desires all people to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

Romans 5:8 (ESV)

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Colossians 1:21-22 (NLT)

*21 This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. 22 Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and **you** are **holy** and **blameless** as you stand before him **without a single fault**.*

*"My God, only You could show me what a wretched sinner I am
and make it the greatest news I've ever heard!"*

- Unknown