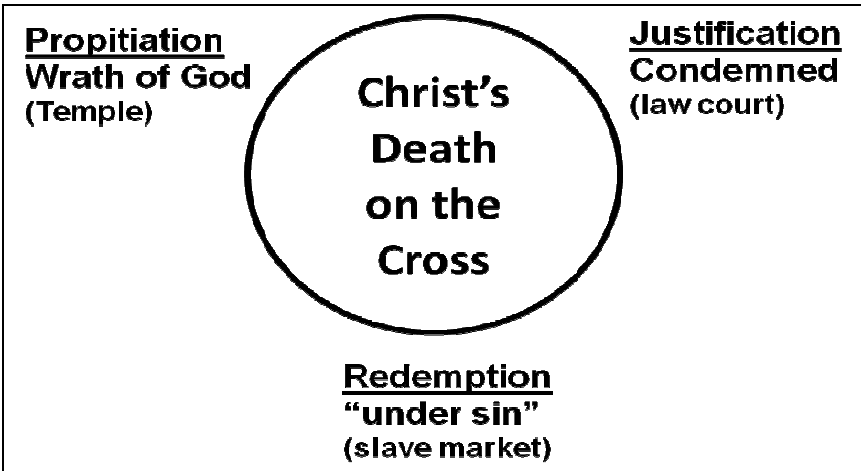
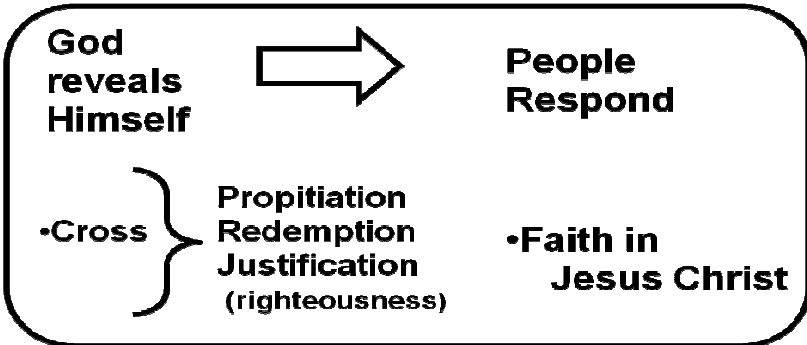
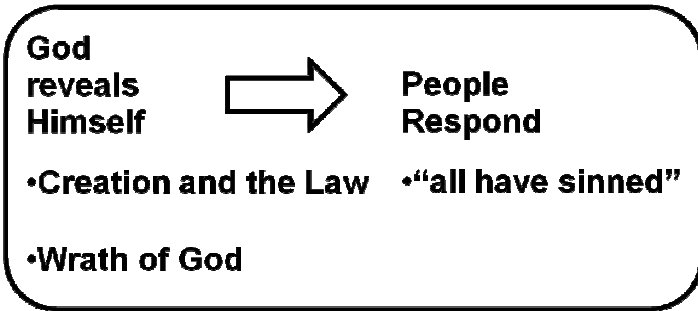


Belonging to Jesus: “Remember the Beginning”
Romans 3:21-4:25

Last week I introduced a plan to help us become more like Jesus. This plan is of tremendous guide to focus our thinking and our living. The plan looks like this:

- Look at the cross
- Look to the Kingdom
- Be empowered by the Spirit
- Follow Jesus, arm in arm
- Reach the World

This week we’re focusing our attention on “Look to the cross” so that we will remember what Christ did on the cross and what happened to us when we trusted in Christ.



Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help us in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus and ultimately to bring glory to God. The biblical principle is: The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- Let’s look to the cross this today by focusing on what took place when Christ died on the cross. Read Romans 3:21-36 and identify the key words that Paul uses to describe Christ’s death. What are they and how are they defined?
- Take these key words and explain them to another person. See if you can put the conversation within the context of remembering whom I belong to.
- Read and memorize Galatians 2:20. What principles/truths do you find from this verse that you can put into practice today? Determine to do that and share with someone what you are doing.

Wednesday-Thursday

- Let’s look at the cross today by focusing on what took place at our conversion, that is, when we became Christians. Read Romans 3:21-26 and summarize what you find about your relationship with God.
- What do you discover about your “identify” as a Christian? It’s helpful to distinguish what you were like before and what you are like now.
- Knowing this, how will this impact your worship of God? How will it impact your loving one another? How will it impact your reaching out to those who don’t know God in a personal way?
- Determine one way you can develop in light of your identify as a believer in Jesus Christ.

Friday-Saturday

- Today let’s read Isaiah 53, a classic Old Testament passage about Christ and his sacrifice on the cross. What do you discover about Christ?
- What do you discover about his life? His work on the cross?
- This passage talks about the “message” (Isaiah 53:1). Can you summarize the message?
- With whom can you share this message? Ask God to bring someone into your life so that you can share what you’ve discovered with them.