

Beginning Hope: The Life and Death of Jesus - God's Rescue

We are all unrighteous compared to God. Just like Adam and Eve, our rebellion toward God separates us. The good news is that God doesn't leave us hopeless in our sin.

After learning about sin in the last session, do you now see yourself as a sinner? Is it hard for you to admit or believe that you are a sinner? Why?

What was God's rescue plan?

John 3:16 ESV

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

Romans 5:19 ESV

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.

Adam's sin brought sin into the world and we are all sinners as a result. But Jesus, being perfect, and obeying God perfectly, made it possible for those who believe in him to be made righteous, which means without guilt and in right standing before God.

Gospel means _____. This good news refers to the coming of Jesus to rescue all those who place faith in him.

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

For our sake he (God) made him (Jesus) to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus lived a perfect life, without sin. When he died on the cross, he received the full wrath, anger and punishment from God so that those who follow him will never receive God's punishment.

What have you done or tried to do in order to live a good life? The standard is perfection... How did you do in meeting this standard?

Do you believe your sin is enough to require Jesus to die on the cross? Explain.

Think of the worst thing you've ever done and the guilt and shame you feel. Jesus, who was innocent, received the punishment for your sin. By taking God's anger and punishment for your sin, he also took your guilt and shame so that you don't have carry it.

Instead of hiding from God like Adam and Eve, those who follow Jesus, can come to him and receive forgiveness.

What thoughts or questions do you have about this?

When the hero of the story dies, it is usually the end of the story. But Jesus didn't stay dead....

Prepare for next week:

- **read Luke 24:1-12**
- **watch Beginning Hope: The Resurrection**
- **complete the questions on pages 9-10**