

Week 6 – Needing a Savior

Romans 3:10; John14:6

As we have learned throughout the last several weeks, we have a major problem of sin in our lives. We all sin and it keeps us from the relationship with God that He designed for us to have. We also learned about how Jesus came to die for our sins to restore that relationship we are meant to have with God. But why was that necessary?

A lot of people in the world today think that being a good person will get you into heaven where you can have a relationship with God. Many people think that the way to get to heaven is to do more good things than bad things to make you a good person. But that is not what the Bible teaches. That is not how it works.

Imagine that while you are baking a cake for a friend, you burn it to a crisp. It smells like retched smoke and is so hard you can't break it apart. You know this is not a good situation, so you try to make it better. You get a whole bunch of frosting and sprinkles and slather them on the crispy mess. You cover the ashy heap of cake with a thick layer of what looks really nice. You can't even tell what is underneath.

But what happened to the cake? Did it ever actually change? No, the state of the cake is still the same. It is still ruined and unacceptable. There is no way to fix what is wrong with the cake.

As sinners, we are similar to that cake. We are broken and disgusting inside. We are wretched and unacceptable to God. Even when we do good things to try to cover up the mess that we are, we cannot change the state of our heart. We are hopeless in our sin.

That is why Jesus' death on the cross was necessary. Jesus was the only one who could do it. Jesus was the only one who could take the punishment of our sin on himself. He never deserved any punishment because he never disobeyed God. He never did anything wrong. And he offered us his life so that we could give up our own and follow him.

We all need a Savior. We need someone to take away our sin. We need a relationship with God and the only way we can have that is by recognizing how broken we are and asking Jesus to forgive us for all we have done wrong. All we have to do to be forgiven for all our sins is believe in Jesus. We need to believe that Jesus died and took the punishment to remove the sins that we could not remove ourselves. We must understand there is nothing we can do to save ourselves and trust in him that he has already done it for us.

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you have a relationship with God if you are a good enough person?
2. Do you ever try to be "good" on your own strength? Does it ever work?
3. What do we need to do to be saved from our sins?

