

iBelieve

Deep Dive

AT A GLANCE:

The title of the talk series is iBelieve because it is about our Creed, specifically, the first three statements of our Creed: "I believe in God the Father..."; and "I believe in Jesus Christ..."; and "I believe in the Holy Spirit..."

The series isn't just about studying religious statements, but getting closer to the three Greatest Beings in our multiverse: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.

AFTER THE SERIES:

"Creed" literally means "I believe". But in Latin, "believe" and "heart" have the same root word. Why? Beliefs that change your life reside in the heart, not in the mind.

So this series will not only be a deep dive into the Creed but a deep dive into your heart.

Talk 2: "Redeem"

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

Talk 2 is titled Redeemed because it is about Jesus and the grace of Redemption or Salvation we receive through His sacrifice on the Cross.

Talk 2 presents four meanings of why Jesus had to die on the Cross.

In a gist, the meaning we will learn is the message of the talk: "He is calling you."

I. REVIEW THE KEY BIBLE VERSES:

In Talk 2, we get to know Jesus and what it means to relate with Him. We learn more about Him in these verses:

One day, Jesus asked his Apostles, "Who do people say I am?" 28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." (Mark 8:27-28 NIV)

Jesus dug deeper. He asked, "But what about you? Who do you say I am?" (Mark 8:29 NIV emphasis mine)

I imagine there was awkward silence. The apostles looked at each other, egging someone to say something. Because Peter was the recognized leader of the gang, one guy perhaps elbowed him to save everyone from embarrassment.

So Peter cleared his throat and said, "You are the Messiah." (Mark 8:29 NIV)

II. ASK FOR REACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Review the Four Models of Understanding the Cross and Ask members which of the models they relate to...

1st Model: Ransom: Because we sinned against God, we sold ourselves to the Devil.

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Talk 1:
Created

Talk 2:
Redeemed

Talk 3:
Empowered

Talk 4:
Big Day

Notes:



With the death of Jesus, He bought us back from the Devil.

2nd Model: Satisfaction: When we sinned, we didn't honor God, so we owe God honor; Jesus honored God so much by His obedience on the Cross, His surplus paid for our deficit.

In the Ransom Model, the death of Jesus was a payment to the Devil. In the Satisfaction Model, the death of Jesus was payment to the Father.

3rd Model: Penal Substitution: All men have sinned. (See Romans 3:23) And the payment of sin is death. (See Romans 6:23) According to this model, God must punish sin. His sense of justice requires it. Someone has to pay. And that someone has to be another Eternal Being because every sin is an Eternal Sin. That Eternal Being is Jesus. So He dies in my place so that I don't have to die.

4th Model: Discipleship: The Cross is a Call of Discipleship. Yes, He's calling you.
First Message: *"I love you."*
Second Message: *"Follow me."*

Ask for sharing on the question Who is Jesus to you?

Remind members: To answer that question, consider these two spiritual truths: Friendship and Followership.

1. Friendship

Jesus is asking, "Who do you say I am?" because, for Jesus, it's always personal. Getting to know Jesus is Divine Intimacy. That's the Good News: Heaven is about spiritual communion with God.

Question: Are you intimate with Jesus? If yes, that means Heaven starts right here, right now.

But that's not all that Jesus wants...

2. Followership

When Peter answered Jesus, he actually gave the right answer. He said, "The Messiah".

Friendship with Jesus means Dying with Jesus. It will cost you everything. He's calling you.

III. PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Pray that members may have a clear understanding of who Jesus is to them.

Pray that members may accept the challenge not only to be a disciple of Jesus but to make more disciples of the Lord.

Always remember: He's calling you.

Notes:

