

RCMI L-Path Teaching
April 10, 2022

TITLE: Nailed To The Cross

BIG IDEA: The 'finished work of Christ' upon the cross is central to our Christian faith. Without it, our faith is wasted.

VERSE: Colossians 2:13-14 (NLT)

13 You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. 14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

INTRO:

- "Life is wasted if we do not **grasp** the glory of the cross, **cherish** it for the **treasure** that it is, and **cleave** to it as the highest price of every pleasure and the deepest comfort in every pain." – John Piper
- *John 19:30 (NLT) When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*
- It is in the cross that Christ finished everything that we need in life, most importantly our salvation!

WHY DO WE NEED TO BE SAVED?

- *v13a "You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away."*
- Death is our starting point. We are born dead because of sin!
- This is one reality that we cannot run away from. No one is exempted.
- This is the reason why we needed a Savior. The good news is, God gave us one!
- *v13b-14 says, "Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. 14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross."*
- It took Christ to be nailed on the cross for us to be saved.
- That is the gravity and importance of what happened on the cross 2,000 years ago.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ON THE CROSS?

1. SUBSTITUTION

- a. When Christ died on the cross, he died in the place of us, sinners.
- b. He was the sinner's substitute. He was our substitute.
- c. *Romans 4:25 (NLT) He was handed over to die because of our sins...*
- d. *1 Peter 2:24 (NLT) He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin.*
- e. The cross is a place for us, and yet Christ personally carried our sins on the cross.
- f. We needed a Savior to be there for us (substitute), so we can live again.

2. PROPITIATION

- a. To propitiate means 'to turn aside wrath', 'to appease', or 'to pacify'.
- b. *1 John 2:2 (NKJV) And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.*
- c. *1 John 2:2 (Living Bible) He is the one who took God's wrath against our sins upon himself and brought us into fellowship with God; and he is the forgiveness for our sins, and not only ours but all the world's.*

- d. It was Jesus who took all of God's wrath towards sin. (Sinalo ni Hesus ang lahat ng galit na para sa atin!)
- e. It was the turning point, from God's wrath to acceptance.

3. RECONCILIATION

- a. Sin separates us from God. (Tandaan natin, ang kasalanan ay nagpapalayo sa atin sa Diyos)
- b. Jesus brought us back near to God through the cross.
- c. Ephesians 2:13 (NLT) Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.
- d. God is at war with sinners, but Christ has made peace through His blood on the cross.
- e. And because of this, we can now rejoice with God.
- f. *Romans 5:11 (NLT) So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.*

4. REDEMPTION

- a. Redemption means 'to set free by paying a price'. It speaks of freedom from the penalty. In our case, the penalty is death.
- b. The price paid to redeem the sinner was the death of Christ on the cross.
- c. *1 Peter 1:18-19 (NLT) For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. 19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.*
- d. As we are redeemed, we are now free. Let us not go back on sinning.

5. FORGIVENESS

- a. *Matthew 26:28 (NLT) for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many.*
- b. We are a forgiven people.
- c. *Ephesians 1:7 (NIV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*
- d. The death of Jesus opened God's grace for us.
- e. Grace is "undeserved favor". Man does not deserve to be forgiven. But because of Jesus Christ, God's grace was given to us. We are forgiven from our sins.

6. PURIFICATION

- a. Sin is uncleanness that makes us unfit in God's presence. It is a stain that we cannot remove.
- b. *Hebrews 9:14 (NLT) Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God.*
- c. The blood of Christ shed from the cross purifies us so we can worship the living God.
- d. We have been made clean and our spirit alive so we can experience the presence of God.

CONCLUSION:

- The Cross has so much meaning, so much benefit.
- These 6 things that happened in the cross are essentials in our Christian faith.
- It was Christ who willingly went to the cross, and it was our sins that took him there. (Franklin Graham)

- Let us make the Cross, what Christ did on it, to matter most in our lives.
 - *Galatians 6:14 (NLT) As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.*

DISCUSSION:

1. Reflect on yourself and see yourself on the cross. If you would have been there, would you have survived? Would you have lived again?
2. How often do we reflect on what Christ did on the cross? Is it just during the Holy Week?
3. As a takeaway, let us reflect on Galatians 2:20
 - *I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*