

Theology: How it Works

MAY 5, 2024



SERIES OVERVIEW:

When we talk about theology, a lot of times, it can get very academic or detached from the Christian life. Over the next seven weeks, we want to journey together to help us take the study of God (theology) and ask, "Why do I need to know this?" "What do I need to know about it?" and "What do I do with this?" so that it becomes very practical - out of the clouds and into our homes and lives.

MESSAGE TAKEAWAYS:

WE ARE SAVED BY JESUS CHRIST AND JESUS CHRIST ALONE.

THE PROCESS OF SALVATION IS THAT OF JUSTIFICATION, SANCTIFICATION, AND GLORIFICATION. HERE IS A REHASH OF WHAT PASTOR ALEX WALKED US THROUGH:

JUSTIFICATION:

WE CANNOT EARN JUSTIFICATION BY OUR OWN WORKS.

JUSTIFICATION IS MADE POSSIBLE ONLY BY JESUS' SACRIFICIAL DEATH AND SHED BLOOD.

A FREE GIFT BASED ON GOD'S GRACE.

CANCELS THE PENALTY OF SIN AND RESTORES GOD'S FAVOR (MORE THAN JUST ACQUITTAL, BUT FULL ACCEPTANCE. BECAUSE OF CHRIST WE ARE MADE RIGHTEOUS.) IT HAPPENS IN A MOMENT.

SANCTIFICATION:

WASHED, REGENERATED, RENEWED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

ALREADY BUT NOT YET - IN-PROCESS ON THIS SIDE OF ETERNITY.

GLORIFICATION:

GOD'S FINAL REMOVAL OF SIN FOR ETERNITY, MADE HOLY FOREVER, EVERYTHING MADE NEW

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS:

- Think back to when you first recognized Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of your life. What did awe look like? How do the Scriptures shared today (Ephesians 2:3, Hebrews 9:27, Colossians 2:13, Revelations 5:1-14, Ephesians 2:4-5) help renew that awe and wonder of what God has done through Jesus and Jesus alone? *Take time to read these passages, offering a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God following each Scripture passage.*
- Respond to the statement, "The gospel is simple enough for children to grasp and deep enough to never understand all of its mysteries."
- Read Ephesians 2:4-9 and discuss what this passage conveys about our salvation.
- Pastor Alex talked about Justification, Sanctification, Glorification. Take some time to dialogue about these - what questions do you still have surrounding these terms? How does this inform your worship and praise in wonder of who God is and what He has done?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Want to learn more about what it means to have a relationship with Jesus? To surrender and follow Jesus with you life? We'd love to have a conversation with you:
<https://ncchapel.churchcenter.com/people/forms/551596>

Be Baptized: Ready to take this next step. Read more about Baptism at NCC here:
<https://www.ncchapel.com/baptism/>

Wondering how to find community? Wondering what to do with this gift of salvation you've been given? Fill out a Next Steps card and begin a conversation: <https://ncchapel.churchcenter.com/people/forms/37542>

As we continue on this journey, we would love to help you in any way we can. If you are wondering what next steps are right for you, please reach out, and we'd love to have a conversation with you or your group about the season you are in and the places Jesus has entrusted to you as you seek to be formed by His Word.

Meet with a Pastor: <https://ncchapel.churchcenter.com/people/forms/551596>