DISCIPLESHIP GROUP CURRICULUM

Week 26 - June 24 through June 30

TODAY'S LESSON: "Condemnation Turned Into Salvation"

TODAY'S PASSAGE:

Romans 5:18-21 NLT Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous. God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: What did you learn from what we just read?

1) Adam's offense brings condemnation into the whole world.

- One sin led to the condemnation of all men and women.
- In breaking God's command not to eat from one specific tree, Adam introduced sin and death to the world where it took root in every person to follow.
- Because all have sinned, all face God's judgement and the same fate condemnation.
- Condemnation: the act of declaring something awful or evil, judgment (of sin)

Romans 3:23-24 NLT "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: Why do you think Adam disobeyed God in the garden regarding the fruit?

2) Jesus' sacrifice brings salvation to all who accept Him as Lord.

- Adam's sin brought condemnation to ALL men and women, but the righteous act of Christ brings justification.
- This righteous act is His substitutionary death at Calvary.
- It is important to understand that God only sees two types of people on earth (saved and unsaved).

- Only those who by faith trust in Jesus as Savior receive this justification.
- Everyone who does not accept Christ as Savior will be lost for all eternity.
- Justification: present peace with God, the act by which God moves a willing person from the state of sin (injustice) to the state of Grace (justice).
- Substitutionary: the idea that Jesus died for our sins.
- Jesus, through His death, did for us that which we could never do for ourselves. We are guilty of sin, but Jesus paid the price for us.
- Redemption: the work of Christ on our behalf, whereby He purchases us, He ransoms us, at the price of His own life, securing our deliverance from the bondage and condemnation of sin

Romans 8:1 NLT "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"

• Only Jesus could die for the sins of the world as only He was a perfect sacrifice.

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: How was Jesus considered the "perfect sacrifice"?

3) The law was given to show the world where they stand.

- The law reveals the heart of God and was given to reveal sin as an offense against God.
- The law gives us the knowledge of sin by showing us our need of pardon and our danger of damnation.
- The law will lead us to repentance and faith in Christ.
- Because of Christ's sacrifice at the cross, all the demands of God's holiness have been met, and the penalty of the law has been paid. Now, God can grant eternal life to all who accept Christ as Savior. This is the Grace of God in action.
- Pardon: the action of forgiving or being forgiven for an offense
- **Damnation**: judgement to eternal punishment in hell
- **Repentance**: a heartfelt conviction of sin. a turning away from the sinful way of life, and turning towards a God-honoring way of life
- Grace: undeserved favor which cannot be earned and is freely given

John 1:16-17 NLT "Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

INTERACTIVE QUESTION: As Christians, we are living under God's Grace. Does Grace exclude the law?

CLOSING QUESTION: What is one thing from today's lesson that you will apply this week?

God commands us to be generous to the needy.

Deuteronomy 15:7-8 (NLT)

7 "But if there are any poor Israelites in your towns when you arrive in the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tightfisted toward them. 8 Instead, be generous and lend them whatever they need.

Encourage everyone to give their tithes and offerings.