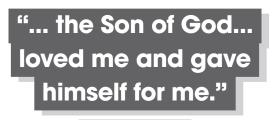
Session 3



Why is the cross the symbol of Christianity?



(GALATIANS 2:20)

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23).

- Pollution of sin (Mark 7:20-23)
- Power of sin (John 8:34)
- Penalty for sin (Romans 6:23)
- Partition of sin (Isaiah 59:2)

- "The self-substitution of God" (1 Peter 2:24)
- Agony of the cross (Isaiah 53:6)



The cross shows:

- You are infinitely valuable to God.
- Jesus is the supreme example of love. (John 15:13)
- God is not aloof from suffering.
- The powers of evil have been defeated: the resurrection wasn't the reversal of a defeat; it was the manifestation of a victory.
- The **partition** has been removed (2 Corinthians 5:19) – Reconciliation with God and in other relationships
- The **penalty** has been paid – Justified ("Just-as-if-l'd never sinned")
- The **power** of sin has been broken
 - "If the Son sets you free, you are truly free."
 (John 8:36, NLT)
- The pollution has been removed
 - "... the blood of Jesus, ... purifies us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)
 - When you are forgiven, you want to forgive.

RECOMMENDED READING

The Cross of Christ John Stott

Why Does God Allow Suffering? Nicky Gumbel

Unreachable Darrell Tunningley

Mud, Sweat and Tears Bear Grylls

Why Jesus? Nicky Gumbel

The Hiding Place Corrie Ten Boom
