

Teaching Outline Week 6
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No Easy Way Out

Audience

This is going to be a group bible study project for adults. The group normally ranges from 10 people to 15. These 10 sessions are going to allow us to learn more about God's grace and what it means for us as Christians. There will be questions for the group throughout the lessons as well as videos about main topics. I will be writing the lessons using two books the first being Set Free! : What the Bible Says about Grace and the second being another Jack Cottrell book titled 13 Lessons on Grace.

Introduction Video

Outline

- I. What is the solution to our problem of Guilt?
 - A. Justification or Forgiveness?
 - B. What does it mean to be justified?
 1. Declared not guilty
 2. We are justified through Jesus' blood
- II. Propitiation
 - A. Why did Jesus die for us on the cross?
 1. So that God could be both Just and Justifier
 2. Romans 3:25-26
 - a. "whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."
 3. "The cross is needed not just because we are sinners, but because God is God. The necessity of the cross is rooted in the nature of God."(Cottrell, Jack. 1988.)
- III. Justice & Love
 - A. God is Just
 1. Why can't God just snap His fingers and forgive all sins?
 - a. Because of the Justice aspect of God
 2. God being a just God is required by His own nature to punish sin
 - a. Sin is the transgressions against the nature of God
 - b. Example
 - i. Lying is a direct attack against God since He is the God of truth
 - c. "When we tell a lie, then , we are not just breaking some abstract law which God has arbitrarily made; we are in fact assaulting God himself."(Cottrell, Jack. 1988.)
 3. God because He is just must punish sin otherwise He will not be true to his own nature.
 - B. God is Love
 1. God's justice could be satisfied without the cross
 2. God could just cast all sinners into hell
 3. Why doesn't he??
 - a. Because of God's love for all of His creation

4. If God sent all creation to hell He would not be true to His nature of Love
5. God pronounces all of us righteous so that we will not have to face His wrath.
6. God's eternal plan
 - a. Death of His only begotten Son Jesus Christ
- C. Jesus died for us all
 1. The cross & Christ is our propitiation
 2. Propitiation
 - a. an offering that turns away wrath
 3. What does it mean "Christ bore our sins"?
 - a. 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - i. "He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."
 - b. Galatians 3:13
 - i. "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"—"
 - c. Christ not only bore our sins, but bore the full wrath of God for us all
 - d. Christ was our substitute
- IV. Justification
 - A. Because Christ was our propitiation we now can be justified through His blood.
 - B. Are we still guilty?
 1. Yes, but through faith the blood of Christ covers the sin and absorbs the guilt.
 - C. Romans 8:1
 1. "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
- V. Reconciliation
 - A. Peace between God and man
 1. One of God's accomplishments through the atoning work of Jesus Christ
 - B. **AS SINNERS WE ARE GOD'S ENEMIES**
 - C. 2 steps to reconciliation
 1. The removal of God's enmity
 - a. Sinners are the objects of divine hatred
 - b. This done through Christ's sacrifice
 - c. "By diverting His wrath and enmity wholly upon Jesus, God cleared away every obstacle to reconciliation and peace from His side."(Cottrell, Jack. 1988.)
 2. Our own acceptance of God's actions towards us
 - a. When we fully accept God and His grace we are able to receive reconciliation with God.

GOD HAS SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF OUR GUILT, BUT NOT WITHOUT GREAT COST TO HIMSELF.

Group Activity

This week's teaching will consist mainly of group interaction and discussions.

Rationale

I chose this topic to teach on because the idea and theology behind grace is so misunderstood. I feel that we as humans trying to grasp the idea of a gift given to us with no strings attached that will enable us to enter heaven is almost impossible. Even when we finally understand grace it's something we still at times have a hard time not only explaining to ourselves, but to others as well. I hope through this 10 week study I can not only shine a light on what grace is to others, but also grow in understanding of it myself.

References

Cottrell, Jack. 1988. 13 Lessons on Grace. WIPF and Stock Publishers.