

Lead Me to the Cross

Sin's invasion into God's world is a problem for us all. A problem that God, through Christ, solved on the cross of Calvary. Paul uses the Greek noun sin 45 times in Romans compared to only 4 times in his other letters. Paul is reminding the Roman readers that all people are under sin as he uses an image of the bondage of slavery that holds us captive to these ways leading us to death. In this series, which leads us up to and into Easter, we see how great our need for a Saviour is by seeing how lost we are without Him. We then celebrate that Christ has made a way for us to find victory and freedom from the power of sin and death to instead be bonded to Christ's power of life and righteousness.

Before We Judge

March 26, 2023 | Romans 2:1-11

God's kindness is what leads us to repentance. This is the posture in how we live out our lives and how we deal with sin. We first look at our own life, repent and show the kindness of Jesus to others.



All of us are tempted by sin, all of us fall short. We all have something in our lives that goes against God's design for us. God knows what is best. And what He wants for us is to live by His will, this is the kindness He offers humanity. He points us back to His created ways.

God wants us to recognize sin in our own life, repent of it, and then show this kindness to others ([Matthew 6:33](#)). Preston Sprinkle says, "love the person, hate your sin."

Jesus' conversation with Zacchaeus models how kindness leads people to repentance ([Luke 19:1-10](#)). Through kindness we can point people to Jesus and let the Holy Spirit do the work in their lives that only God can do.

As Christians we should have discipleship relationships that help us grow in Christ. And we should struggle with life together and we should talk about sin. But make sure we are lifting each other up in love, and pointing each other to Jesus, rather than judging and condemning.

Reflect + Apply

For further reading: Preston Sprinkle, *People to be Loved*

How is it that kindness can lead to conviction and transformation? How have you experienced this in your journey with Jesus? How is the Holy Spirit stirring you today?

How can we practice this posture as a church community in our world today? What does it look like to take sin seriously, to encourage one another in this struggle, and to model kindness to the world in a way that creates space for repentance?

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