

The Message of the Cross

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – August 25, 2024

1 Corinthians 1:11-13, 17-18

11 My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas (Peter)"; still another, "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into the name of Paul? 14-16... 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel — not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. 18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1. WE ARE ALL BROKEN & FALL SHORT

Romans 3:23

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Isaiah 64:6

... all our righteous acts are like filthy rags...

2. ETERNAL LIFE IS A GIFT... IT CAN'T BE EARNED

Romans 6:23

For the wages (punishment) of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Galatians 2:20-21

20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me... 21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

3. THE LOVE OF CHRIST IS THE SOLUTION

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:18

... just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

4. YOU MUST CONFESS YOUR SINS AND BELIEVE IN JESUS TO BE SAVED

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

John 19:30

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.