

Love Starts Here Part 1 Behind the Cross

THE "WHY" OF THE CROSS:

Luke 19:10 "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the <u>lost</u>."

- Answer: "BECAUSE HE LOVES US!"
- We don't <u>naturally</u> know how to love like this.
- He came for the LOST NOT the found.

Romans 5:8; "But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were <u>still sinners.</u>"

- His LOVE exists <u>before</u>, <u>during</u> and <u>after</u> our <u>failures</u>. He JUST LOVES
- Loving <u>others</u> is tough business. Our temptation is to: <u>conditionally</u> love.

THE "WAY" OF THE CROSS:

John 14:6; "Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

• The 'WAY' of the CROSS is the PERSON ON the cross.

Romans 5:9; "And since we have <u>been made right</u> in God's sight by the <u>blood</u> of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation." Matt. 7:3 "Enter through the <u>narrow gate</u>. The gate is wide and the road is wide that leads to hell, and many people enter through that gate. ¹⁴But the gate is small and the road is narrow that leads to true life. Only a few people find that road."

CHOOSE THE <u>NARROW</u> WAY.

THE "WALK" OF THE CROSS:

• The <u>LIVING OUT</u> our <u>covenant</u> relationship with THE GROOM.

Eph. 2:10; "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

• LOVE for Him keeps you walking out His plan for your life.

Ephesians 5:1-2; "Therefore be <u>imitators of God</u>, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Valking with Jesus involves striving to imitate His character and love.

Vould you say your life is an OFFERING to GOD?

The WHY of the CROSS is – un-explainable love.

The WAY of the CROSS is —only thru the BLOOD & PERSONHOOD of JESUS

The WALK of the CROSS is – to mirror our lives after Him – to ove as He loves.



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