

THE FUNDAMENTAL LIST

RECOVERING THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR FAITH

PART 5: OF FIRST IMPORTANCE

Today's fundamental is the least surprising, but perhaps the most perplexing: Jesus died for your sin to reconcile you to God.

It's perplexing because Jesus had the power to just announce people's forgiveness—he did it at least three times in the Gospels. So why did he have to die?

CONNECT

Have you ever asked the question, “Why did Jesus have to die?” Did you receive a satisfactory answer if or when you asked?

LEARN

You will watch a shortened version of a message from this series to set up your group discussion. Watch the full message sometime this week as a reminder of what was talked about today.

APPLY

After sharing what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. In the video, Andy said, “The reason we value justice is because we are made in the image of God, but our view of justice is flawed, damaged, and self-centered.” Do you agree? What do you think distorts our view of justice?
2. In the video, Andy said,
 - Because of his **mercy** he **delayed** payment.
 - Because of his **justice** he **demand**s payment.
 - Because of his **grace** he made the payment **himself**.

What stands out to you from these statements?

3. What does it say about God that although his justice demands payment for sin, he paid it himself?
4. What would change in your life if you intentionally and consistently reminded yourself of what Jesus did for you?



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BEFORE NEXT TIME

So, why did Jesus have to die? God's nature will not allow him to overlook sin. But...

- Because of his **mercy** he **delayed** payment.
- Because of his **justice** he **demand**s payment.
- Because of his **grace** he made the payment **himself**.

Before next time, take some time to meditate on **2 Corinthians 5:20–21**. Thank God for the enormity of his grace.

PRAY

Take some time to pray as a group and thank God for how he waded into our mess and paid the cost of our sins himself. Ask him to help you start each day with a reminder that he loves you and gave everything for you to have a relationship with him.

Fundamental #5: Jesus died for your sin to reconcile you to God.

