



# Leader

9/11 - 2 Corinthians 5:10-21

## Theology Refresher - "Judgment Seat of Christ"

The "judgment seat" was the tribunal bench in the Roman courtroom where the governor sat while rendering judicial verdicts. Christ will also judge as God the Father's representative on all the actions of mankind (both seen and unseen). For believers, every present-day action will have eternal consequences before this judgement seat (1 Cor. 3:12-15). *[Note: This judgement of believers is different than the judgment of those who reject Christ in the "white throne" judgment (Rev. 20:11-15)].*

## LOVE

**A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)**

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

## TRUTH

**Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)**

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[Dialogue]

2. Do you believe that if you once lived a life steeped in sin, that is your lifelong identity? How does this passage combat this belief?

One who is in Christ is a new creation. God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, adopts us as sons and daughters and gives us new capacities for His grace. All Christians have lifelong struggles with sin (some are even genetic/chemical predispositions), but that does not mean God will not empower you to routinely put these sins to death as you put on the "new self" (Col 3:5-10). As sin is put to death (mortification) and replaced with grace (vivification), a Christian begins to triumph over the sins that once plagued him or her.

3. When you think of the term reconciliation, what comes to mind? How does God reconcile the world to Himself through Jesus?

Example: Reconciliation=restoration. God sent His Son into exile, away from His proper dwelling place in heaven, to dwell with man. On earth, Jesus earned the name "the Way" by those who

encountered Him because he was quickly recognized as the way back to God. Jesus Christ, the agent of creation, does not only restore our relationship with God but will also reconcile all of creation back to God's original design, bringing about shalom (wholeness/peace).

4. Verse 21 contains verbiage describing a theological term that you may have heard, what could it be? Why? [Multiple Correct Answers]

[Leader Tip: Guide people to think deeply about what Christ accomplished for us on the Cross]

**Substitutionary Atonement** - Rather than us facing the judgement we deserved, Jesus willingly accepted our sin and placed it on himself, thus acting as our substitute. In turn, he then gave us his righteousness, atoning (covering) our sins; past, present, and future. In light of this act of righteousness for our sake, we stand justified before the Lord (declared righteous).

5. How does this text challenge you? How does it affect your daily life?

[Dialogue]

6. How would you briefly summarize this passage? How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member?

[Dialogue]

## GREAT COMMISSION

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)**

- How are we doing as a group with the Great Commission?
  - Is there anyone that you need to invite to church or this group?
  - Is there anyone who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
  - Does anyone need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

## PRAYER/REPENTANCE

**But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today," ... (Heb. 3:12-14)**

- Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to repent of before the group?  
[apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger]
- Let's confess our shortcomings to the Lord and pray what we have learned in God's word.

---

Resources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)