

I. **John 3:16-17**

A. **Two important questions in life**

1. What really happened at the cross?
2. If we really “get” what happened at the cross, how does that change how I live?

B. This is Christianity summarized - This is THE GOSPEL!

1. G - God's
2. O - Only
3. S - Son
4. P - Perish
5. E - Eternal
6. L - Life

C. **Rom 1:16-17** 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

II. **What really happened at the cross?**

A. **The cross is a place of 3 things:**

1. Redemption
2. Relationship
3. Responsibility

B. **A Place of Redemption** - We were worth dying for

1. **John 19:25** - Mary Magdalene
2. **Redemption** - *apolutrosis* - ransom or payment in full; no debt. Let one go free upon payment of ransom.

3. **Luke 8:2** - Mary Magdalene was a woman from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons.
4. **John 10:10** - Thief kills, Jesus gives life.
5. **Col 1:13-14** 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.
6. **2 Cor 5:19** 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

C. **A Place of Relationship** - Becoming members

1. **Eph 2:12-19** - Membership has its privileges
 - a) **Ps 103:2-5**
 - b) **Ps 116:12** 12 What shall I render to the Lord For all His benefits toward me?
 - c) **Ps 68:19** 19 Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation!

D. **A Place of Responsibility** - He is worth dying for

1. **John 19:26-27** 26 When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" 27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.
2. **Luke 9:23-26** - Lose your life to save it