



AT GRACEPOINT

APRIL 5, 2020 | STEVE NORBY

### Goal of the Why Series 1 Peter 3:15

1. Answer some WHY questions in your own faith.
2. To be able to give the REASON for the hope that you have.

### Palm Sunday Question

Why was the CROSS necessary?

I. Answering this question begins with understanding God's HOLINESS.

Examples of God's Holiness

1. Leviticus 22:32
2. Psalm 99:1-3
3. Revelation 4:8

Holiness - morally perfect, perfect righteousness, denotes SEPARATENESS, to be set apart from ordinary or common, religious awe, sacred

II. Answering this question is further defined by knowing that God's perfect nature will not ALLOW Him to OVERLOOK sin.

The Problem

God's PERFECT nature cannot COMMUNE with humankind's SINFUL nature. Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

### The Answer

God PROVIDED a way for you to have a holy nature, by Jesus' sacrifice on the CROSS, so that you can have relationship with Him, a holy God.

Hebrews 10:10b

### Common Misconceptions

- I TRY to live right & count on that to make me OKAY with God. Galatians 3:1-3
- My SACRIFICE makes me okay with God. Hebrews 10:1-4

# TOGETHER AT HOME

WHY THE CROSS?

### Discipling with Family & Friends

1. If someone asked you why the cross was necessary how would you answer that question?
  - If the conversation started out on the holiness of God rather than the sinfulness of humanity does that change the focus of the discussion?
2. What does holiness mean? List ways holiness can be lived out in our culture. What does it mean to you to be in the world but not of the world?
  - If you have children talk with them on what it means to be set apart for God. Make a list of ways this can be practically done.
  - Parents watch out that you don't unintentionally teach your children that they are good or right with God by learning & obeying Bible verses. Always teach them they are okay because of Jesus & His sacrifice on the cross then out of love for Jesus they are to learn His teachings & live them out.
3. What are some ways God is made common or ordinary? How do you balance that God is your friend and God is also holy?
  - Discuss how you are your child's parent but also you can be friends. As your child matures your goal for them should be that your relationship matures into one of friendship and counsel. Perhaps as we mature in God, we too are to become ones who enjoy more & more of a friendship with Him?
4. As we enter into Holy Week take time to pray this week joining with the heavenly beings declaring that God is holy. Praise Him that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross so that we can become holy & have relationship with a holy God.