



KEY SCRIPTURES

- **Romans 6:23**
- **1 Corinthians 5:7**
- **2 Corinthians 5:17**

VIDEO

- Ps Tanner Lee, *Next Gen Pastor at Celebration Church*

BIG IDEA

When you see the words "The Cross," what comes to mind? Is it a memory from a family member's house with one hanging on the wall? Or an elaborate stained-glass window in a church?

Whatever you envision, the cross is the defining picture of our faith. Why did Jesus have to die on the cross, you may ask? The cross in biblical times was a place where they executed criminals. The Roman empire would utilize crosses as public execution to show their ultimate authority and as a scare tactic for anyone that would come against their "kingdom." This is important for us to know because this was done by design and allowed by God. The cross is not just a happenstance because of what

was culturally done at the time; the cross is a fulfillment of prophecy and shows us God's heart. I want to take you through three things about why Jesus dying on the cross is essential for us as Christians.

THE CROSS SHOWS US THAT:

- 1. Our debt has been paid** - Romans 6:23
- 2. Death has passed over us** - 1 Corinthians 5:7
- 3. Our future in Jesus is greater than our past** - 2 Corinthians 5:17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you think of the cross of Jesus and what it means to you, what is the first word that comes to mind?
2. Out of the three points discussed, what is the one that is most revelatory to you?
3. How can you take a more profound step into the new life Jesus purchased for you on the cross?

PRAYER/REFLECTION

Take a moment to pray for one another's needs and reflect on the impact of this study on our everyday way of living.