



BREAKING THE ICE

What is your favorite movie and why?

Who would you consider an ICON? What makes them an ICON?

Last week we talked about prayer. How did your prayer time change over last week? What did you see God do in your prayer time last week?

MAIN CONTENT

This week we had a guest speaker, David Nasser, who started our “ICONS” series. David talked about the cross and its importance to our faith.

1. When you see a cross, what does it make you think about?

If you have grown up in church or been a follower of Jesus for some time, chances are you are very familiar with the cross. Maybe even too familiar. The cross was not just a historical event. It's a reminder of everything Jesus did for us.

Pastor David reminded us in this week's message that we exist. We all know we exist, especially if we are breathing and still living. Because we exist, we were born sinners. Even the youngest people on the planet are sinners. We can't help it. We sin.

2. How do you view yourself as a sinner?

The other thing we know is that God exists. He has always been and will always be. He is holy and sinless. We are set apart from God because of our sin. Our sin keeps us from God.

3. How do you view God? Has your view of God changed over time? If so, how has it changed?

God sent Jesus to fill the gap between us and Him. Jesus was sinless. When He lived on earth, He never sinned. Even though He was sinless, He took on all of our sins. Every single sin every person will ever have, He took on the cross. He did that for us so we could find freedom and have relationship with God.

4. What does the cross symbolize for you?

Pastor Nasser said, “The question isn’t have you heard the gospel or do you know the gospel but do you love the gospel”? If we have been in church at all in our lives, we have heard the gospel. We probably can tell you about the gospel of Christ. But do you love the gospel?

5. What does it mean for you to truly love the gospel and importance of the cross in your life? How can you show the importance of the gospel and the cross in your life to others?

No one can ever do what Christ did for us. He took everything on Himself for us to have life with Him. We can forget the importance of what He did on the cross because we go through life living through our religion. We have to move from religion to remembering the redemption we have through Him.

6. When is the last time you thanked Jesus for what He did on the cross for you?

7. How can you choose to live a life of redemption and not religion?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for sending your Son to redeem us. Never let us forget the importance of the cross and what it means to each of us. Where we have lived a life of religious practices, help us to live a life of redemption and gratitude. Give us the boldness to speak about the cross and what it means so others can come to know you and experience you. In your name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

- + Every day this week tell God you are thankful for the cross and for what Jesus did for us.
- + Every day list 5 things you are thankful for from the previous day. Thank God for those things and His part in them.
- + Ask God to place people in your life that you can share your story about how Jesus has changed you. Ask Him to give you the words to say and to guide your conversations to tell others about His Son and the cross.