



## **Just a Sinner Saved by Grace**

### **Message Notes, May 13, 2018**

The moment of a person's salvation is not the finish line, but rather, the starting line.

What did Christ accomplish for us on the cross?

- Salvation – a momentary experience but a lifelong process of being set free from sin and transformed into the holy likeness of Jesus which begins with conversion.

Conversion

- Changed from sin and separation from God to trusting in Jesus.
- Our minds, hearts and directions are changed.
- Our core identity is no longer that of a sinner.
- Repentance is a part of conversion. We were devoted to sin and we turn to living for and pursuing Jesus.
- Jesus referred to this moment as being “born again.”
  - Born from above of the Spirit of God living within
  - Regeneration – having the Spirit of God living within you
  - John 3:3, John 3:5, John 3:7
- Justification – happens at the moment of conversion
  - Forgiven and set free from shame and guilt
  - We get to trade guilt for His righteousness
  - Just as if I never sinned
  - Cleansed and healed

Glorification

- Occurs at the time of our death
- He will share His glory with us
- We will get to be in His Presence for all times

If we have accepted Christ as our savior, we are living in the time between conversion and glorification.

- Between justification and glorification
- Between conversion and death
- This place can feel hard, wonderful, challenging, frustrating, hopeful
- Philippians 2:12 – working out our salvation with fear and trembling
- Serious spiritual business taking place
  - Sin nature dying
  - Hell had a claim on us and we are being loosed from that, but part of us is like the cat who is being relocated – claws dug in as being pulled away
  - The old weaknesses and temptations do not go away without a fight

- But they will go out as we surrender and cooperate with His Spirit
  - Romans 8:37
  - Romans 8:11
  - 2 Corinthians 3:18
  - Philippians 2:13
- There is so much God wants to do in us!
- This process of dying to sin, growing in wholeness and victory is a continuous process = sanctification
  - Romans 6:11-14
    - Power of sin waning
    - Power of holiness growing
    - Sin nature dying off
    - Bondage to darkness breaking
- Clear breaking point in the power of sin is the “line” of justification
  - Isaiah 1:18 – Sin scarlet, made white
- Boldly proclaim: I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20)
- Sanctification with regards to John 3:30
  - He must become greater; I must become less.
  - He must grow and I must diminish
  - He must become more prominent and I must become less so
- Sanctification is cooperatively working with the Holy Spirit, so that the sin nature dies and we become holy like Jesus
  - Hard work
  - Not overnight

#### #JustASinnerSavedByGrace

- The little truth – we were sinners
- The misconception – the word “JUST” is not the best we can hope for. i.e., I’m *just* a sinner saved by grace, who is *just* waiting on heaven.
- If this is where we stand, then our life does not look any different than a non-Christian
- From this place, the logical conclusion is that I am wretched, unlovely, black hearted, filthy, rotten
- Miserable place to be if this is all He saved us for – a hopeless place to live
- Sinner saved by grace is true, but not complete

#### God wants us snatched from death and destruction

- 1 John 1:9 – If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.