

## **Sermon Based Discussion**

**Sermon Title: Building Your Life on Jesus' Death**

**Sermon Series: Building Your Life on Jesus (Part 6); Sermon Text: Romans 5:6-11**

### **INTRODUCTION**

When someone dies, it's usually a sad occasion, and we're sorry to hear about a death. Of course, the death of Jesus is in many ways tragic: the unlawful death of an innocent who did not deserve to die. But this Jesus Christ was no mere victim. Rather, he willingly laid down his life in dying on a cross.

In this series, "Building Your Life on Jesus", we've been looking at different aspects of the person, words, and work of Jesus Christ. In this session, we look at a passage that gives us three profound implications from the death of Jesus—implications upon which we should build our lives.

### **OPENING QUESTION**

1. Think of one person who you're pretty sure loves you. Has that person shown their love in a specific act that stands out to you?

### **INTO THE BIBLE (Read Romans 5:6-11)**

2. Someone dying for another is already a pretty amazing thing. How does the writer, Paul, try to show that Jesus' death is even more amazing than that?
3. How does the passage describe the people who Jesus died for? Would you agree or disagree with this assessment?
4. Verses 9-10 tell us that Christ's death justifies believers by his blood. What does this mean? (You can look at Romans 3:25-26 for more insights into this.)
5. According to verses 9-10, God has already done the "hardest part" about saving people from their sins: sending His Son to die on a cross. If God has done the hardest part, what should we expect about God taking care of us from now on?

What specific future event can we expect God to save us from? (v.9)

### **GOING DEEPER**

If someone were to question God's love, then such a person should consider Jesus dying on a cross. For people who believe Jesus died for them, there should be no question as to God's love. But if we're honest, Christians do struggle with doubting God's love at times.

In the passage, the death of Jesus is supposed to prove God's love because (1) it is a most precious gift and (2) we are utterly unworthy recipients of this gift. If a Christian struggles with doubting God's love, then it seems he might be undervaluing the gift of Jesus' death, or he might forget that we're utterly undeserving of this gift.

6. Have you ever struggled with doubting God's love? If so, which of those two beliefs above are you more likely to forget?

### **WHAT WILL YOU DO?**

We should reflect upon the death of Christ daily. If the death of Christ is the single, most powerful picture of the love of God, then we should remind ourselves of the infinite worth of Jesus' life, the Son of God! And we should remind ourselves of our utter unworthiness daily. In fact, this should be a regular part of your prayers to God. Before you complain about God, or ask God for some request, affirm before Him in prayer and each other that Jesus' death is all the proof we need of God's love.

And then do as verse 11 suggests: "...we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation."

### **CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:7-8, NIV)*