

Sermon Recap

April 12 '09-- The Price Is Right - Are You Ready To Grow? 1 John 1:5-8; Heb. 12:1-3; Rom. 12:1-2

Without Friday there is no Sunday. Without the cross there is no resurrection. He is Lord of the cross. The cross is a price tag. It was the price of our salvation. When you wear a cross it isn't a piece of jewellery; it's a price tag, what it cost Jesus to redeem you. He knew the exact price before He paid it.

God finds us like caterpillars crawling in our sin on the ground and when we come to Him, He wraps around us like a cocoon. And we change, we grow up **Eph. 4:11-15** God gave the five-fold ministry as a gift to the church for its growth. Are you ready to grow? We need to learn that in order to grow up and go up we need to give up. Jesus is our example. He gave up everything for us; in return we need to give up everything for Him. In order to really understand all that God required as a sacrifice to cover sin, go through the book of Leviticus. When Jesus died, all that ended; it was finished. He is our high priest for all time. On the most important day the most important person died for the most important reason, **John 18:37**.

The cross was used to bring death; Jesus used it to bring life. In refusing Jesus' payment we choose to pay for our own sin, with our own death. Apart from a relationship with Him hell is our destination. His blood was the covering for sin for all time but we need to make the exchange, our death for His life. He is the giver of life. When things are going well, we get dangerously close to thinking we are doing it ourselves and that's called self-righteousness. May we remember that the only thing we have to offer God, even on our best day when we are on the top of our game, is our sin. And He's got that covered, through the blood of Christ. That's what we celebrate this resurrection Sunday; Jesus gave His life as a ransom for us; it wasn't taken from Him; it was freely given. He could have called 100 thousand angels to His rescue if He wanted. Have you received the life that He gave for you? Are you walking in it? The right price paid at the right place- the cross. **Luke 9:23** tells us that *we must deny ourselves and pick up our own cross daily* in order to follow Christ. Jesus did not save us so we could have a better life style. In this life we will have trouble **John 16:33**, we have been saved to eternal life. How many of us have said, "not my will Lord, but Yours be done." As born again believers we are have resources to help us.

Jesus saw the need- our salvation, He carried the burden- our need and he caught the vision- the cross. We all have **Goals** in life; God's goal was our redemption. we all have **Options** to reach our goals, Jesus was God's only option. In between goals and options` there is **Reality**- goals cost. God's cost was the death of His Son and He was **Willing**. Do we see the need? We have a mission field right here at the Café. There are souls to redeem; that should be our **Goal**. We are the **Option**; will we step out and allow God to use us? The **Reality** is it will cost us; time, financial support, prayer support, Are we **Willing** to pay the price? Are we willing to say, "If You can use anything Lord, You can use me."? Are we willing to give up in order to Gro up?