

Session 5

Redemption and Security

Key Point: Resting securely in God's love. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus forgives me and reconciles me to God.

Key Encouragement: Jesus' death and resurrection is the most important event in history.

Session Goals:

Pray for each other's family and friends.

Better understand and explain the sentence, 'Jesus died for my sins.'

Recognise Christian jargon.

Introduction

When Jesus lived, died and rose again, God broke into our world and showed us a new world. This is the Bible's answer to the question 'How can I be safe in a broken world?'

What key points were made in the video? Did anything stand out for you?

In Session 4 Review we looked at the Gospel summary Two Ways to Live. What stood out for you about this summary of God's story?



Train

God's Story: Redemption

In this session we focus on Redemption. God loves us and frees us from our sin and its consequences. He does this through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Read Romans 5:1-11.

Answer the following questions using the table below:

1. Before

- a. How are people described *before* they become a Christian?
- b. What are their circumstances like?

2. After

- a. How are people described *after* they become a Christian?
- b. What are their circumstances like?

3. How do people move from 'before' to 'after'?

4. Look at the table. Try to express each idea in your own words, without using any Christian jargon.

Before	After
How?	

5. Does anything strike you or surprise you?

6. How do people know God loves them?

7. How does standing in grace change us and our lives?

Because God loves us, Jesus died for us. He took on Himself our sin, and died the death that we deserved, so that we could be justified (= declared

not guilty and now right with God), redeemed (= set free from sin and death), and reconciled (= forgiven).

When we trust Jesus to save us, Jesus shares with us His resurrection life and God pours His Spirit into our heart so that we *know* we are loved and accepted. Being known and loved like this changes us as it draws us to Jesus and nurtures in us a love for Jesus. Although we still sin and we still live in a broken world, Jesus fixes our relationship with God and enables us to live transformed lives of love, obedience and joy.

The security we find in Jesus ripples out from us and transforms all our relationships.

My Story: Security – Who or what saves me?

We all trust someone or something to give us security in a broken and uncertain world. Who or what we choose to trust differs from person to person. Our choice might be wise or unwise. But we all trust something. God's story tells us that only Jesus can provide the security we want and need.

How does God's story connect with you personally? Choose one of the following questions to reflect on. Aim to illustrate your answer with a specific example or story from your life. Remember to avoid Christian jargon and make sure you say something about Jesus' death and resurrection. Spend a couple of minutes making some notes about what to share with the group.

- 1. When did I first understand what it really meant to say that 'Jesus died for my sin?'. For some people this is a conversion experience. For other people it might be a moment of clarity.**

- 2. How does trusting Jesus as my Saviour help me deal with fear, pain, regret or guilt?**

- 3. How does Jesus' death and resurrection bring me joy, peace or security, even in the midst of challenging circumstances?**

4. How does being saved by Jesus encourage me to obey God even when it feels costly?

Share

Share any stories about evangelistic opportunities that God gave you this week. Some might seem like successes; others might feel like failures. Some might be interesting conversations you would like to pray about and then pick up again in the future.

- Which people would you like to share Jesus with next week? When will you talk with them?

Pray

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

Use this passage to guide your prayers for each other and for the family and friends you shared about earlier.

- Praise God for loving us so much that Jesus died for us.
- Ask God for increasing confidence that Jesus is the risen Lord who saves.
- Ask for opportunities to share your story about the God who gives us security in a broken world.
- Thank God and pray for the conversations or friends that people shared about earlier.

Review

1. Which of the pictures used to describe Jesus' work on the cross – justified, redeemed, reconciled, saved – most resonates with you at the moment? Why? Write out a paragraph to share with the group next session.
 - Notice that this is not quite the same as telling the story about how you became a Christian.

This question asks you to reflect on how trusting Jesus' death and resurrection continues to impact your life now.

- Illustrate your answer with a specific, real-life example of how trusting Jesus gives you security in a broken world.
 - Include aspects of both the life Jesus has saved you *from* and the life Jesus saves you *for*.
 - Remember to mention Jesus' death and resurrection and avoid Christian jargon.
2. Think of the five people you are praying for regularly. For each person, consider how they would answer the question: What or whom do I trust to give me security, peace and joy? Take time to consider how their lives would be better if they knew Jesus.

Summary Table

Key Concepts and Questions for each Gospel theme.

	God's story: How does the Bible answer these questions?	My story: How do I answer these questions? How do my friends answer these questions?
Creation and Identity	<p>What does it mean to be created in God's image?</p> <p>What does God think about us and the world He created?</p>	<p>Who am I? Who are we?</p> <p>What is my purpose?</p> <p>Why do I matter? Why do you matter?</p> <p>How does being created by God bring me joy or rest?</p>
Fall and Brokenness	<p>What is sin and what are its consequences?</p> <p>What went wrong with the world God created?</p>	<p>What is wrong with me (us)?</p> <p>Why is the world so broken?</p> <p>Why can't we fix things?</p> <p>Is God's justice something to look forward to or fear?</p>
Redemption and Security	<p>How does Jesus save us?</p> <p>Why does Jesus save us?</p>	<p>How can I be safe in a broken world?</p> <p>Why am I confident God loves me?</p> <p>What does Jesus save me from?</p> <p>What type of life does Jesus save me (us) for?</p>