

Made for More

The Message of the Cross

Freedom is rooted in what Jesus *did* and not what we *do* (John 19:29-30). Contrary to the common belief of our culture, we cannot generate enough power or strength to get free. Instead, freedom comes when we plug in to and yield to what Jesus did on the cross. When we connect and yield to Jesus, the message of the cross affects our lives directly and empowers us to become free, to become like Him. What Jesus did on the cross is more than enough, which is why He could say *tetelestai* (it is finished). Through Him, our debt is paid, justice is served, our life is built, and victory is obtained.

GET THINGS STARTED

- What was your experience with the *Purify Workbook* this past week? What did you learn about how you view God, and what do you think God is shaping or changing in you? What part of the father heart of God do you need to grab hold of in this season?
- How much of a *cross* person are you? Do you wear a cross, or have them displayed in your house or office? In your mind, what is the difference between the *image* of the cross and the *message* of the cross? Why is the message of the cross offensive to so many?

WATCH TESTIMONY VIDEO: WEEK 3

GO DEEPER

1. What resonated with you from the testimony video? How can you personally identify?
2. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, how is the message of the cross *the power of God* for those who follow Jesus? What is that power, and how do we continually access it?
3. From John 19:29-30, what did Jesus mean when He said *tetelestai* (it is finished) on the cross? How is the cross and the concept of *tetelestai* an affront to our independence, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What does it look like for you to personally plug in to, and to continually plug in to, the power of God that Jesus made available to us through the cross?
2. How have you possibly experienced freedom and then have lost ground in that freedom? What do you think led you to losing ground, and what steps do you need to take to regain that freedom?

PRACTICE IT NOW

What a great opportunity to be thankful for Jesus and what He accomplished on the cross! Take time as a group, in an attitude of prayer, to verbalize your thankfulness that on the cross He said *tetelestai* (it is finished). Express your gratitude that because of Him, and what He did, we can experience life-altering freedom. Ask God to help you plug in and to remain plugged in to Him, so that you not only taste of freedom but remain in it. Take time also to pray for each other on this freedom journey, for the courage and resolve to stay the course.

PURIFY WORKBOOK – FOR THIS WEEK

Session 3: Pulling Down My Idols