Believe Grace

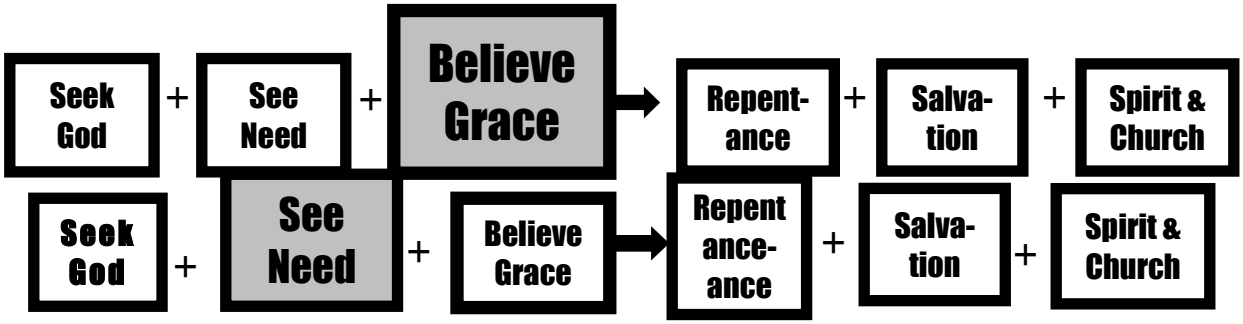
The Cross of Christ

Purpose

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might have be saved through him. *(John 3:16-17)*

Here, the gospel message reaches its peak. We are saved through grace. We are saved through Jesus' loving sacrifice. Be sure that the seeker has seen his/her need for grace, and this study in grace will be powerful. It's also important for the seeker to understand his/her responsibility for Jesus' death. Establishing *personal* responsibility will later reap great gratitude and joy for Jesus' *personal* love and forgiveness.

- **Romans 3:21-27.** All are in complete need of grace for all have sinned. Christ is propitiation for the wrath we've earned. He redeems us; he justifies us; he atones for us.
- **Romans 4:22-25.** We have Jesus' righteousness credited to us via faith. Jesus died for our sins and was raised for our justification.
- **Romans 5:6-11.** Jesus died for us while we were at our worst, enemies of God, weak and sinful. His blood changes all that and reconciles us to God.
- **Mark 14:26-15:41**. Jesus chose to die for us. We are to take personal responsibility for these events that Jesus endures. Reflect on the reasons why Jesus endures these afflictions (my sins and His love).
- **2nd Corinthians 5:14-15, 21**. We are convinced that Jesus loves us because of the cross. That love motivates us to repent (that is, to no longer live for self but for Jesus). Jesus died as a perfect sin offering for us.
- **1st Peter 2:21-25**. Die to sin and live for the new righteousness that the cross provides – this is our response to the cross.

Additional Helpful Scriptures:

- Isaiah 52:13-53:13
- Psalm 22
- Acts 2:22-38
- Colossians 2:13-14
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- John 3:16
- John 1:29