"Atonement: What Is the Gospel?"

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I. **The _____ of Christ's death, burial, & resurrection on _____ behalf.** (1 Cor. 15:3-4)

II. **On the _____, Jesus bore the full _____ sinners earn.** (Isaiah 53:5-6; Romans 6:23)

III. **The Gospel _____ on what _____ has done, not what we can do.** (Eph. 2:8-9)

IV. **A _____ is _____ by Grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone.** (Romans 3:28)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1–4. Before this message, how would you have answered the question, "What is the Gospel?" Has anything changed or become clearer for you?
2. What does it mean that Jesus bore the punishment sinners earn on the Cross? Why does it matter that His death fully accomplished what was needed for our atonement?
3. Read Ephesians 2:8–9. Why does it matter that the Gospel rests on what Jesus has done rather than what we can do?
4. Why are we tempted to add our own works, goodness, or religious activity to what Jesus has already done?
5. Read Galatians 3:1–3. What are some ways Christians can begin trusting in their own works even after initially putting their faith in Jesus?
6. Read Romans 3:23–28. What does it mean to be "justified by faith apart from works"? Why is that such good news for you?
7. How would you explain "by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone" to someone who is trusting in their own performance to make them right with God?
8. If someone asked you today, "What is a Christian?" how would you answer them?

Next Week's Message: "Awakening: What Does It Mean to Be Born Again?"