

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Why Did Jesus Come to Earth?

The Gospel of Mark - Week 49

ICEBREAKER: What one new thing did you learn in the last week?

OVERVIEW: When you read the gospels, it is easy to see what Jesus did. He was born of a virgin. At the age of thirty He began His ministry as an itinerant preacher and miracle-worker. At the age of thirty three, Jesus was crucified, and three days later He rose from the grave. It's easy to read the story of Jesus and learn what He did, but it's more important to understand why He did it. And in Mark 10:45 Jesus gives us the answer: **For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life—a ransom for many.** It's so short and simple that it's easy to miss. In this discussion we will go deeper and learn more about the reason Jesus came to earth.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read Acts 20:28. What is a ransom, and what was the ransom price for our salvation?
3. Read Galatians 3:13. What is the curse of the law, and how did Christ redeem us from it?

4. Mark 10:45 says that Jesus was a ransom "for" many. The word "for" means "in the place of." What does it mean that Christ gave His life, a ransom "in our place?" (See also Isaiah 53:5-6.)
5. God is both loving and just. How was the ransom of Christ necessary to express and satisfy God's love and justice?
6. Mark 10:45 says that Christ gave His life – a ransom for "many." Do you believe in the Calvinistic doctrine of Limited Atonement, or the Arminian view of Unlimited Atonement? (See also 1 Timothy 2:3-6; John 3:16.) Explain. How does your view of Limited or Unlimited Atonement impact your Christian life?
7. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. According to this verse, how should we live in response to the ransom of Christ? To glorify God is to reflect His holy character through your life? How do you need to grow in glorifying God?
8. Read 1 Peter 1:18-19. What does this verse say that we were redeemed from? If Christ redeemed us from this, then why do Christians still sin? How do we overcome sin in our daily lives?

The Last Word: "He gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for Himself a people for His own possession, eager to do good works." Titus 2:14