FLATIRONS COMMUNITY CHURCH



Easter
What Was Jesus Thinking? – Jim Burgen
April 10, 2022

Group Creed

We come together as a group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

Mark 14:32-36; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Philippians 2:11; 1 Peter 1:18-19;

// Message Summary

For better or worse, we live with the consequences of our choices and decisions. Those whoa, uh oh, and I dunno moments seem to have repercussions that shape us for years to come. Happy Easter, right?! While we may never have the chance for a 'do-over,' this week, Pastor Jim encourages us to push pause on the condemnation tapes playing in our head. Rather than continuing to revisit our past mistakes, we can die to them and begin a whole new life. This week we're talking about the kind of God we have - how His love and grace are greater than our disgrace.

// Biblical and Historical Context

Many of the believers of the first-century church in Rome were former Jews. We don't know if they were in Jerusalem attending one of the Jewish pilgrimage feasts, or perhaps they caught one of Peter's famous sermons. When Paul wrote to the Romans, he shared the gospel and history of Christianity built on the foundation of their Judaism. Leading up to Romans 5, Paul beautifully articulates God's plan to redeem His people from the beginning. Paul explains that God's old covenant promise to Abraham was defined by faith. Now that Christ Jesus has come, we get access to God by that same faith. Paul plainly instructs all in this first step of faith: 'That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Romans 10:9).

God did not waste any part of Paul's background - his education as a Pharisee, his Roman citizenship, even his weaknesses and failings. All of Paul's life was redeemed and retooled to be used for the purpose of the gospel.

// Community Question

1. What traditions did you enjoy at Easter this year?

2. Did you or someone you know get baptized this weekend? If so, what was that like?

// Discussion Questions

1. Read Philippians 2:6-11; what resonates with you?

2. Life's big lessons (and sermons at Flatirons this month) are all about ways we come to faith. Would you agree? Can you think of some examples from the bible or your own life?

3. Sometimes we think about suffering and sin in connection with disobedience. What do these verses have to say, and how might they explain a difference?

    a. Mark 14:36
    b. Philippians 2:8

4. Read 1 Peter 1:18-20. What does it mean to be redeemed? What was God's motivation? What is your response?

// Challenge

A man will give up everything he has for his life. God (through Jesus) gave His life to redeem all He had created. What kind of love makes that kind of exchange, and how can you respond?