

Introduction - *"The start of the Transformed Life . . ."*

Okay, so I've become a Christian . . . now what?

If you are saved by faith, then why do anything at all?

What motivates God to do good things for us?

What is our real need?

God's desire to be glorified and my desire to be filled with life are NOT in conflict!

"You know what we get to do today, Brooksie? We get to play baseball!"

Application - *"Will you live the transformed life?"*

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 5:24

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

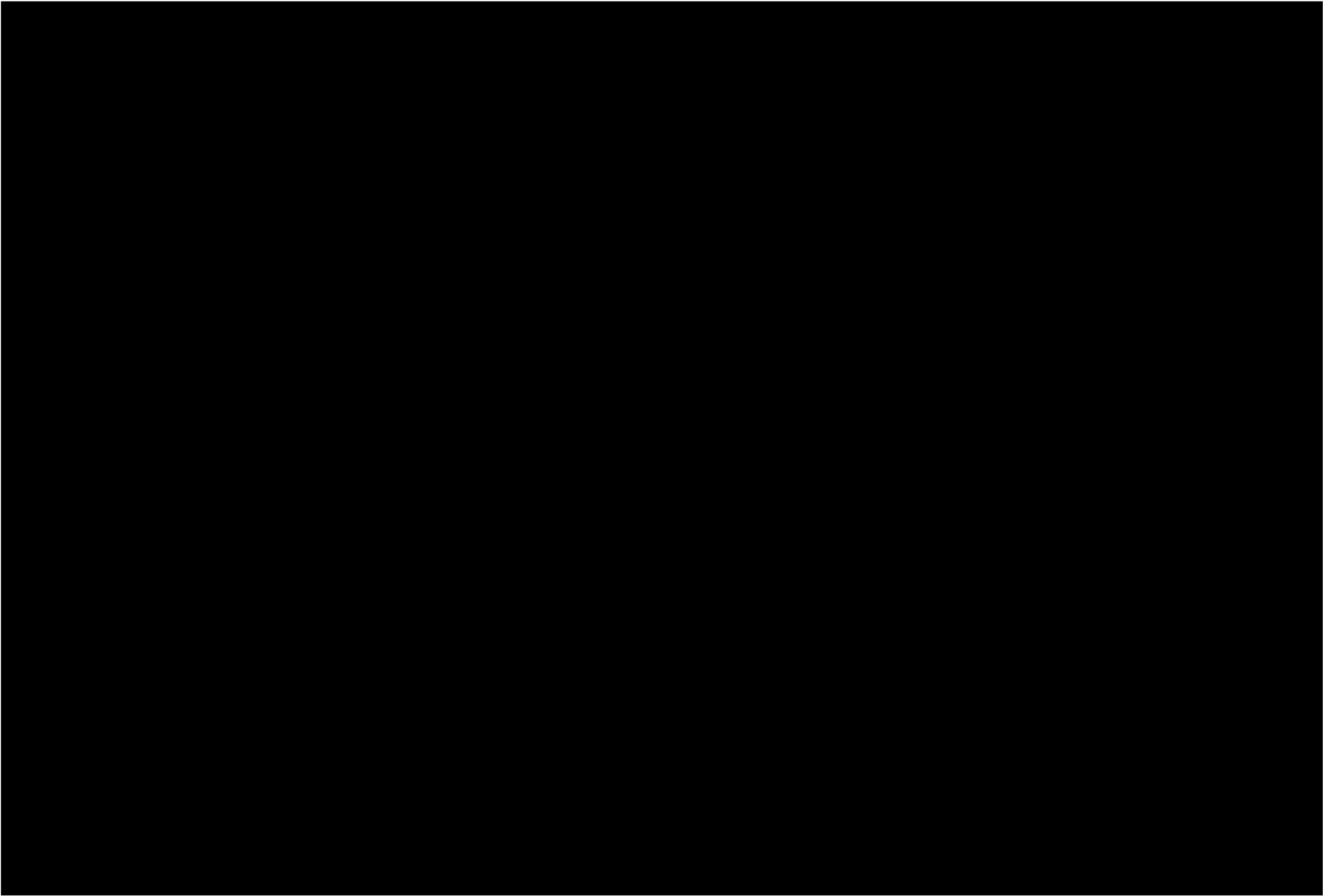
Acts 2:42-47

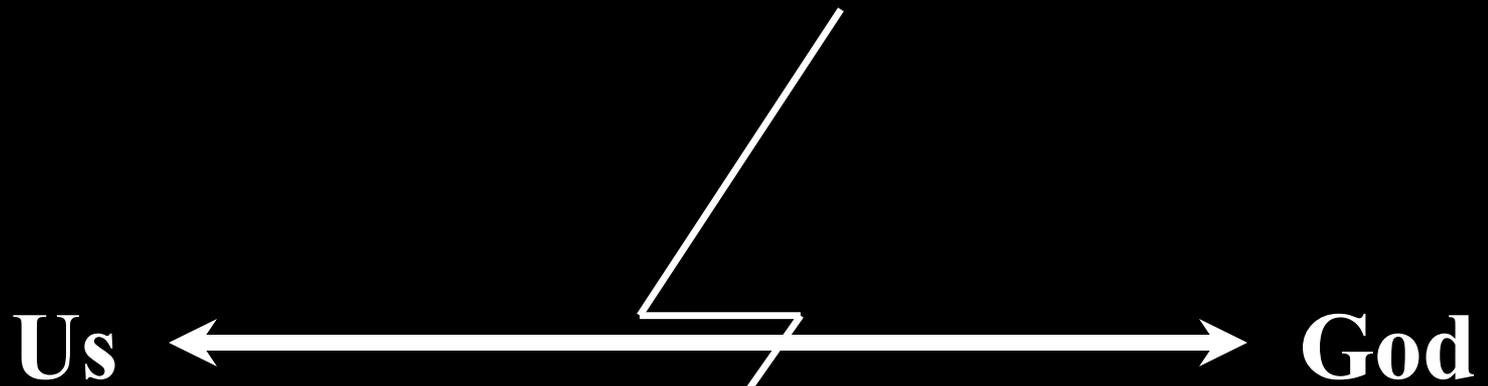
⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Ezekiel 36:22-27

²²"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. ²³I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes. ²⁴For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.

²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws."





Us

God

Sin enters the world

Isaiah 59:2

John 5:24



HEAR

BELIEVE

Romans 5:8

Us

God

Romans 5:12

John 3:16

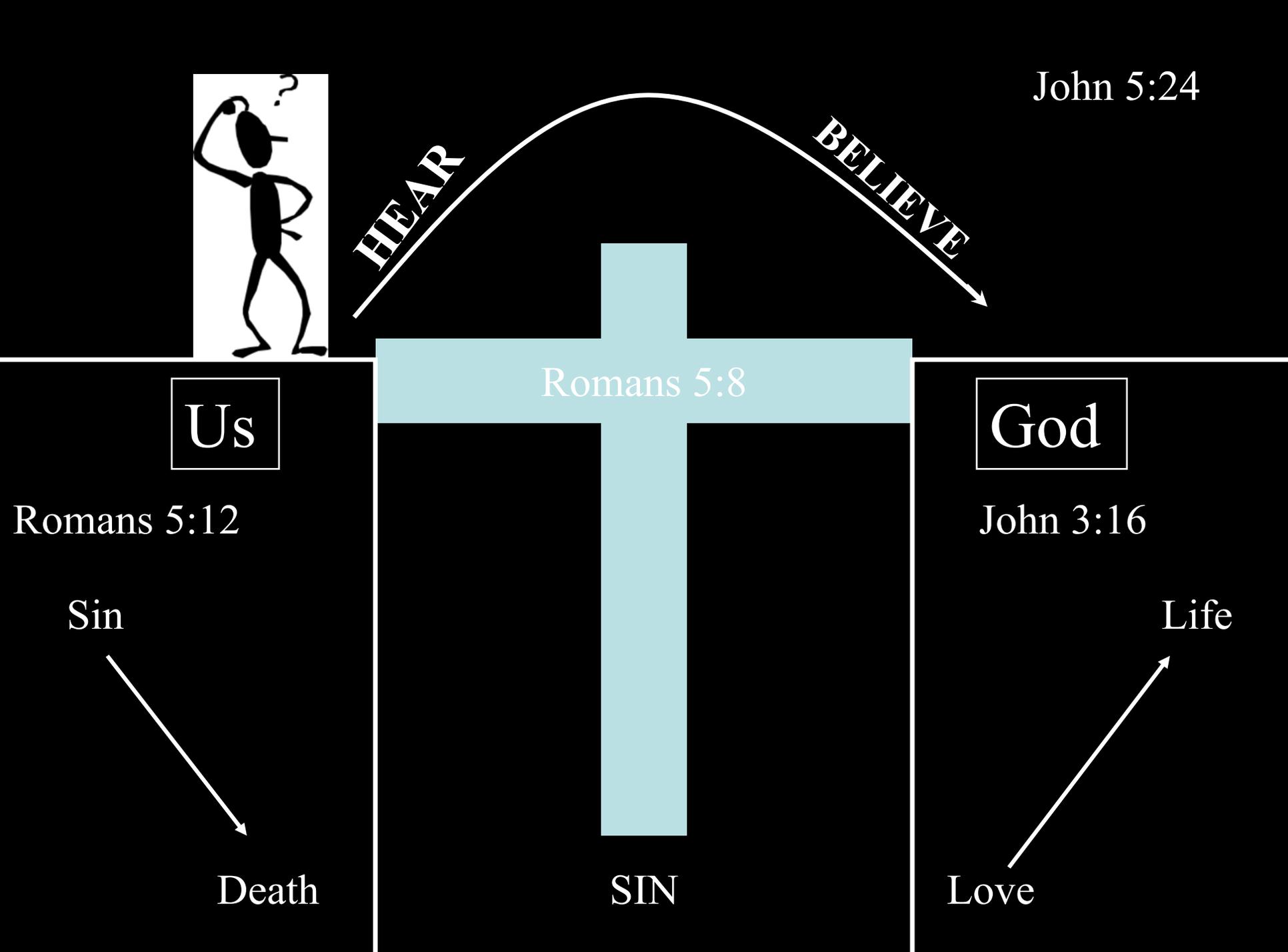
Sin

Life

Death

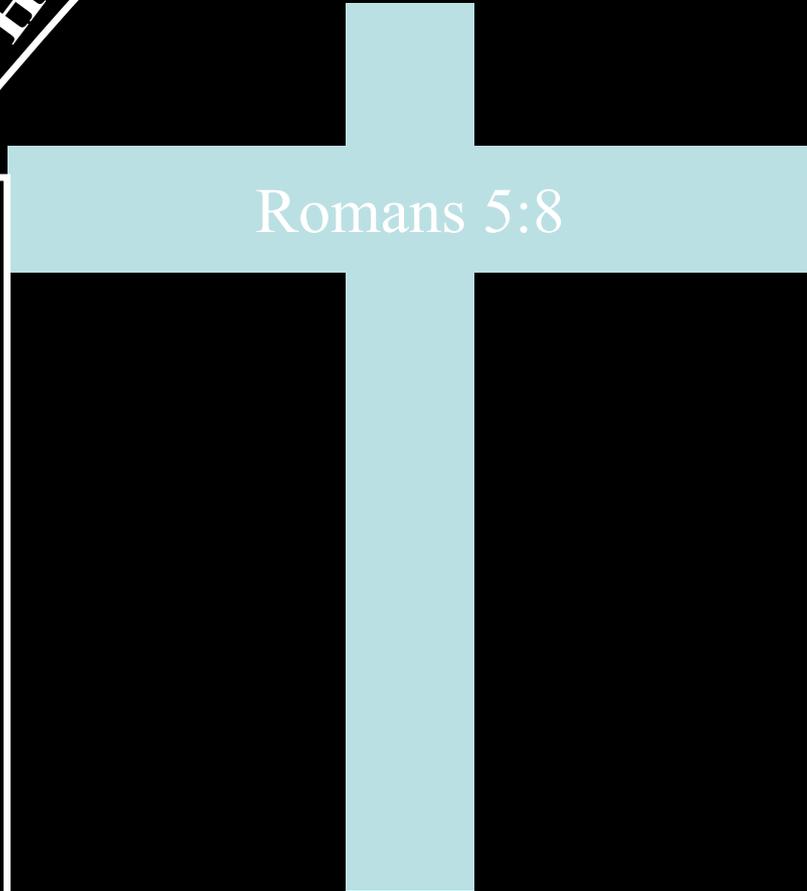
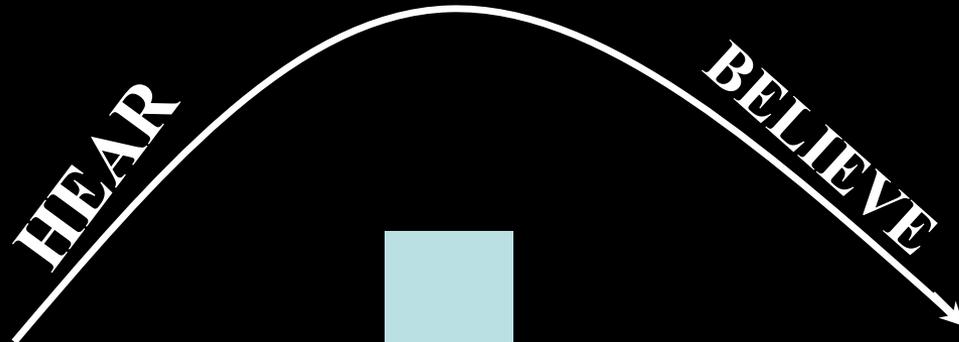
SIN

Love





John 5:24



Us

God

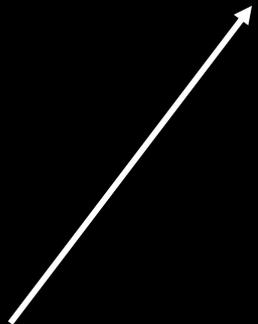
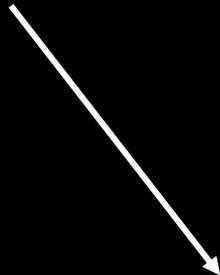
Romans 5:8

Romans 5:12

John 3:16

Sin

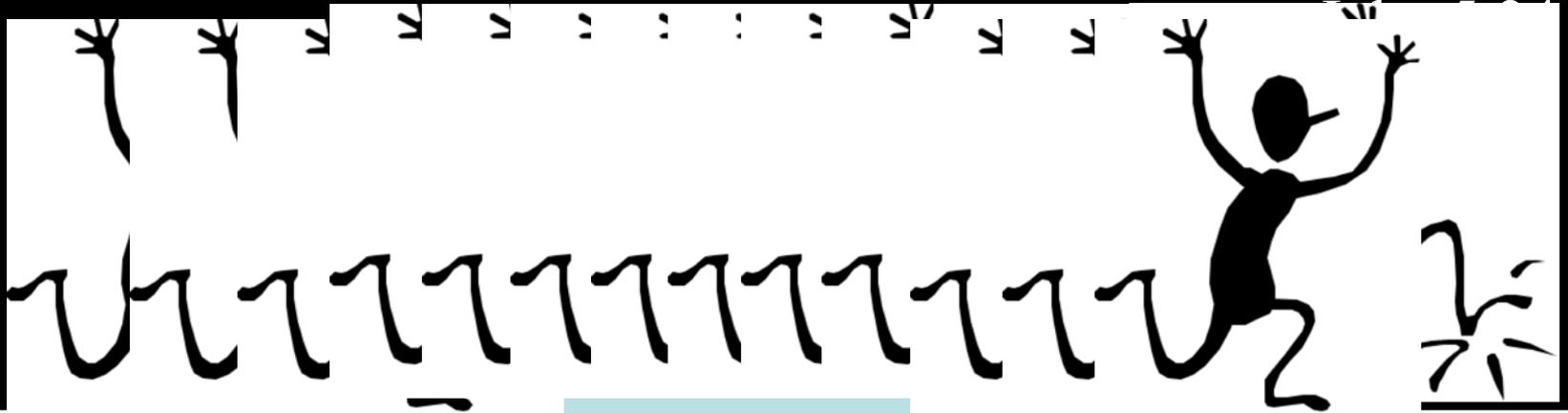
Life



Death

SIN

Love



Romans 5:8

Us

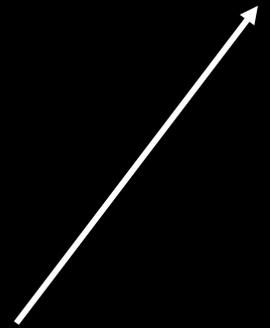
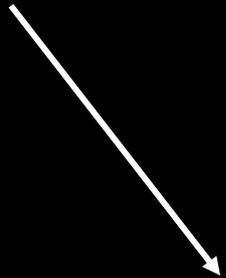
God

Romans 5:12

John 3:16

Sin

Life



Death

SIN

Love

Acts 2:42-47

(Personal Translation by Pastor Steve Treichler)

⁴²And all of them, in one loud voice proclaimed, “Gosh, Peter, thanks for the great entertaining sermon! You really do know how to preach, and that was really something!” ⁴³Then one of them, a brother by the name of Harvey, stood up and approached Peter. He declared unto him, “Pete, may I call you Pete? We sure appreciated the message this morning, and the whole tongues of fire thing was something that I personally won’t ever forget.

⁴⁴But, we’ve been talking and we don’t like the fact that you are calling us to a radical life change. ⁴⁵We kinda like the way we are, and although the message was enlightening and very entertaining, we don’t really want to follow God on an everyday basis. We’ll be back for Christmas and Easter. But not every week, or every day; what’s in it for us if we do?”

⁴⁶Then each one left, and went back to their own home. ⁴⁷Even though their lives did not change one bit, the message of Peter was in fact entertaining and enlightening.

The Transformed Life - part 1

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common.

⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Ezekiel 36:22-27

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, `This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. ²³I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes. ²⁴For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.

²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.’”

Ezekiel 36:22-27

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. ²³I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes. ²⁴For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.

²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.’”

Colossians 3:1-3

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-3

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

All men seek happiness. This is without exception.
Whatever different means they employ, they all tend to this end.
The cause of some going to war, and of others avoiding it,
is the same desire in both, attended with different views.
The will never takes the least step but to this object.
This is the motive of every action of every man,
even of those who hang themselves.

~ from Penesees by Blaise Pascal

But the most obvious fact about praise—whether of God or anything—strangely escaped me. I thought of it in terms of compliment, approval, or the giving of honor. I had never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise unless (sometimes even if) shyness or the fear of boring others is deliberately brought in to check it. The world rings with praise—lovers praising their mistresses, readers their favorite poet, walkers praising the countryside, players praising their favorite game—praise of weather, wines, dishes, actors, motors, horses, colleges, countries, historical personages, children, flowers, mountains, rare stamps, rare beetles, even sometimes politicians or scholars. I had not noticed how the humblest, and at the same time most balanced and capacious minds, praised most, while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praised least. . .

I had noticed either that just as men spontaneously praise whatever they value, so they spontaneously urge us to join in praising it: “Isn’t she lovely? Wasn’t it glorious? Don’t you think that magnificent?” The Psalmist in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about. My whole, more general difficulty about the praise of God depended on my absurdly denying to us, as regards the supremely Valuable, what we delight to do, what indeed we can’t help doing, about everything else we value.

I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not our of compliment that lovers keep telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed.

~ CS Lewis, *Reflections on the Psalms*, page 93-95.