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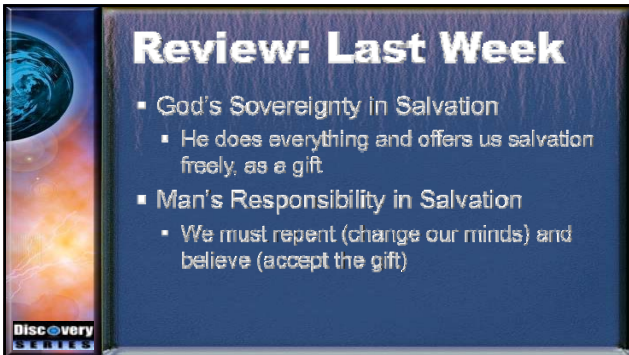
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### Abundant Life You CAN Experience It!!!

- "I have come that they may have *life*, and have it to the full." *John 10:10*
- Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" *John 14:6*
- *But HOW? How do I experience it?*

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### Where is "The Life"?

- We search for life, for it's meaning and purpose in so many places:
  - In friendships / relationships
  - In things / material possessions
  - In religion / ritual
  - In philosophy / intellect
  - In so many things but "The Life"

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### The Saddest Verses?

- *Matthew 7:13-14* "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup>But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."
- *Few find it, how tragic! But why?*

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### A Critical Discovery

- You can't live the Christian life!
- Christ is the life!
- **Christ is IN you and He will live HIS life IN you THROUGH you AS you!**

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### It's Christ Living In You

- **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."
- **Colossians 1:27** "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

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### He Has Already Made Me:

- The righteousness of God - **2 Cor. 5:21**
- Holy - **Col.3:12**
- Complete - **Col.2:10**
- Blameless in His sight - **Col.1:22**

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### Life's 2 Biggest Questions

- How do I get my sins forgiven?
  - See notes from last week.
  - But knowing forgiveness teaches little about living the life
- How do I live the abundant life?
  - Answer: You can't!

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### Understanding "The Line"

- **2 Corinthians 4:18** *"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."*

Eternal (Unseen)  
-----The Line -----  
Temporal (Seen)

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### Living in Two Worlds

- We coexist in two worlds, the unseen and eternal is going on in the midst of the seen and temporal
- The realm above the line is invisible and eternal. It is changeless and timeless. It is the realm of spirit and absolutes. It is the realm of ultimate reality, of the uncreated, of completeness and wholeness where things are finished and settled. It is forever "now"! It is the realm of the "I AM".

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### God's Part (Sovereignty)

Spirit	"I AM"	Ultimate Reality
Wholeness		Changeless
Complete	Eternal (Unseen)	Timeless
-----The Line -----		
In Process	Temporal (Seen)	Time-based
Need	"I am becoming"	Changing
Matter		Appearances

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### God Crossed the Line

- **John 1:1** *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*
- **John 1:14** *"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

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### True Above The Line

- **Hebrews 10:14** *"because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy."*
  - We are already perfected
  - We are Complete in Him
  - We are His righteousness
  - We are blameless and beyond reproach
  - **These are already true of us above the line!**

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**Realm Distinctions**

First: In the here and now, God has designed His kingdom to work by faith. He could have placed the eternal in the visible realm but if He did that, where would there be the need for faith?

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**Realm Distinctions**

Second: It enables us to understand our true identity in Christ. Our failures, sins, and shortcomings constantly confront us. We need to understand our true identity lies above the line in the life God gave us at our new birth. We don't have to draw from our old identity from below the line trying to clean up our act and look good enough for God to accept!

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**Realm Distinctions**

Third: God has designed us so that we can find fulfillment only in the unseen and eternal realm.

The temporary realm offers many pleasures but none of them ultimately satisfy

*"I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in me will never thirst."* – **John 6:35**

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### The Natural Man

A natural [unsaved] man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised ... [But] to us God revealed them through the Spirit ... Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we may know the things freely given to us by God." **1 Cor. 2:14,10,12**

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### An Example of Above the Line Truth

- We died to sin and are free from it. – Romans 6... i.e. sin no longer has any power over us.
- But if we don't know that unseen and eternal truth, sin still exercises power over us. We are caught in the trap of trying to become something that we already are: free from sin.

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### Joined with God

- God has permanently joined Himself to your spirit.
- There is no more separation – God up there and us down here.
- We can cease from striving to get closer to God ... instead we live out what is already true. We live in union. God and you are one.

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**DOUBLE-CROSS**  
**You Died in Christ**

1. *Christ died for our sins*
2. *He is our indwelling life*
3. *He has come to be the life that is impossible for us to become*

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**Side One:**  
**Christ Died For You**

- This truth runs throughout the NT.
- 1 Cor. 15:3; Eph. 1:7-8; Col. 1:14;
- Col. 2:13; 1 Jn. 2:2 and others.

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**Side One:**  
**Christ Died For You**

- This half of the cross only deals with the issue of sins (pl).
- Getting our sins (pl) forgiven, doesn't deal with the question of sin (s)
- Sins (pl) are the product of something that dwells in us sin (s)

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**Side One:  
Christ Died For You**

- Sin is a power, or force, that is in rebellion against God and produces sins as its fruit.
- We inherited sin through Adam
  - Romans 5:12

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**Side One:  
Christ Died For You**

- Let's Read **Romans 6: 3 – 6a**
- Remember last week when we talked about Baptizo – Baptise?
- It means, “to immerse, to place into”
- Now re-read it with “immersed into”

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**Side One:  
What died with Christ?**

- See **Romans 6:6** – Our old man
- The old man we inherited from Adam
- See **Ephesians 2:1-3**
- The old mans is the human spirit indwelt by and enslaved to sin

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**Side One:  
Illustrated by Communion**

- We eat the bread. We drink the cup.
- What does the bread represent?

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<b>BLOOD</b>	<b>BODY</b>
Christ Died for us	We Died & were Raised <i>with</i> Christ

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**Every Believer  
Died with Christ**

- 2 Cor. 5:14, 17-18a
- Col. 3:3
- Rom. 7:4
- Rom. 6:3
- This happens above the line, where there is any time, everything is now. Past present and future are NOW.

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### We Died to What?

- First to Sin (s) the power that sins. Not sins (pl) which are acts of unrighteousness.
- **Rom. 6:1-2** Not an excuse for taking the grace of God for granted. But God sees us in Christ, not what we used to be. **Rom. 6:6-7**

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<b>BLOOD</b>	<b>BODY</b>
<b>We are: Forgiven</b>	<b>We are: Righteous Holy Perfect Complete</b>

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### We Died to What?

- Second, we died to the Law
- **Rom. 7:4,6**
- The Law is holy, but it was given to reveal sin (**Rom.3:20**) and lead us to Christ (**Gal.3:24-25**)
- If we try to keep it we fail (**Rom.7:1-3**)

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### We Died to What?

- Third, we died to ourselves as a point of reference **Gal.2:20**
- As long as my emphasis is on me, it can't be on Christ in me.
- You don't just have to draw on Christ's grace (forgiveness) you can draw on his LIFE instead.

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BLOOD	+	BODY
Christ Died <b>FOR</b> Us	+	Christ Lives <b>IN</b> Us

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### Much More ...

- "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, **much more**, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." - **Romans 5:10**
- We are saved not just by Christ's death, but also by His life. It's true eternally, but also in the here and now.

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