



God's Way is Better | Doug Wekenman | 4.5

Weekly Study

SHARE

Happy Easter, Red Rocks Church—Jesus has risen! We worship a living God who is no longer in the grave. Doug shared a powerful message titled *“God’s Way Is Better.”* On that first Easter over 2,000 years ago, we were given the greatest gift ever offered—a gift we could never earn or deserve: eternal life. Through one man, humanity was separated from God, and through another, a way was made for us to be welcomed back into His Kingdom.

In this week’s message, Doug explained how the entire story of our faith comes down to two defining decisions. The first was Adam’s decision to disobey God by eating from the tree in the garden. The second was Jesus’s decision to lay down His life so that we could be restored and have eternal life. Now, we are faced with a decision of our own: whether or not we will accept and believe in that gift.

This is how we know God loves us—He gives us a choice. He allows us to live life our own way, or we can choose to make Him the Lord of our lives and follow His way. There is nothing we can do to earn it and nothing we can do to deserve it, but the invitation is there. The question is whether we will choose to accept it and spend eternity with Him.

How has following God’s way been different for you than living the world’s way?

- What does the gift of eternal life mean to you knowing that we could never earn it on our own?**

G R O W

Read Romans 5:18-19

In the beginning, God created everything, and when He created Adam, He gave him dominion over it all. Adam had only one command: not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Because God loves us, He gave us free will—because love without choice is not love at all. Adam had everything he could ever need, yet when faced with the temptation to be like God and gain knowledge, he chose to doubt God’s word. In that moment, he believed the lie that God might be holding something back. That single act of disobedience—one trespass—led to the separation of all humanity from God.

- How does understanding the Fall and salvation as a choice better help you understand the Gospel?**

After humanity spent generations going its own way, Jesus came to offer what we could never achieve on our own. He lived a perfect life and chose to die a painful death so that we could once again have the opportunity to be with God. Adam’s decision created a gap between God and humanity, but Jesus bridged that gap through the cross. He gave us the gift of eternal life, and now we are faced with a decision—to accept it or not.

Jesus did what we could never do. He died the death we deserved and rose again on the third day, making a way for us to have the hope and choice of eternal life.

- How does having a choice to choose God’s way or the world’s way change how you view God?**
- How does the parallel drawn between Adam and Christ affect your understanding of humanity’s fall and redemption?**

MOVE

Read 1 Peter 2:24

For thousands of years, sin was like a sickness with no cure—but that is no longer the case. Through His death and resurrection on the third day, Jesus defeated sin and provided the cure humanity had always needed. God did not come into the world to condemn us or push us further away; He came to bring us back to Himself. God does not hate sinners—He hates sin—which is why He stepped into our world to save us. Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin on our behalf so that He could take the punishment we deserved.

If you are feeling stuck in shame from your past or weighed down by unworthiness, you don't have to live that way anymore—because Jesus has already won. In Him, you have been healed from sin and set free from shame. God offers us true life—*zoe*, the Greek word for life—which means the fullest expression of life, the highest level of blessing found in Him, both now and for eternity. This is what the resurrection of Jesus means for you.

We did not earn it, and we do not deserve it, but it has been freely given to us by the God who created us.

- What is something you are still holding onto from the past that you know you need to give to Jesus?**
- How can you begin to or continue to live God's way instead of the world's way?**

PRAY

Take a few minutes to thank God for everything He has done for us. Thank Jesus for taking the punishment so that we do not have to. Pray for one another as you walk in that decision everyday.