



## Week Four

### Pastor Craig Altman

#### General:

- Pastor Craig shared his testimony of how he came to know Jesus. What part of his story can you relate to? What, if any, next steps does Pastor Craig's testimony inspire you to take with Jesus?
- During his story, Pastor Craig made the point to not give up on someone like his friend didn't give up on him. Who in your life might God be calling you "not to give up" on?
- What does it mean to you to be saved?
- What does Jesus teach us about the posture of our hearts before God, and why do you think humility is what leads to justification?
- What's the difference between believing facts about God and having saving faith in Jesus?
- Many people today believe that doing good acts lead to going to Heaven, but Ephesians 2:8-9 challenges that. If we are saved by grace through faith and not by works, why do you think it's so tempting for people to believe they can earn their way into Heaven?
- Jesus says the path to life is narrow and few find it. What do you think makes the narrow path difficult and why do so many prefer the ease of the wide road?
- If you listened to this message and took a step to trust Jesus for the first time, what led you to that decision, and what is one way you want to begin following Him this week?
- If you're already a Christian, where might you be relying on good behavior, religious activity, or past decisions instead of daily dependence on Jesus?
- How does knowing that Christ died for you while you were still a sinner reshape the way you understand God's love and grace?
- If Christ has already taken our sin and given us His righteousness, what keeps us from living in freedom instead of guilt or striving?
- How does 2 Cor. 5:21 challenge the idea that we earn God's approval through good behavior?

- What does it mean that Jesus took our sin so that we could receive His righteousness, and why is that exchange central to the gospel?
- Pastor Craig mentions Luke 18 and asks: Can a religious person miss Heaven?
- Pastor Craig poses the question out of James 2: Is believing that Jesus existed enough?
- If following Jesus is rooted in what He has done, not in what we do, how should that change the way you approach faith, obedience, and grace?
- Why do you think every major religion emphasizes human effort, while Christianity centers on the finished work of Jesus?
- What might it look like in your life to gain success, comfort, or approval and yet slowly lose your soul?
- When you honestly evaluate your priorities, what might be competing with Jesus for first place in your life?
- What are some things our culture tells us are worth pursuing that Jesus says aren't worth the cost of our soul?
- How often do you go through seasons when God's love feels contingent on your good works? How do you reorient yourself around the truths of the Gospel?