

problem:

Death = alienation/separation not cessation
the problem is that we are separated... (Genesis 3:1-24)
from the creator - 3:8-12
from creation - 3:17-19
from the flesh - 3:22-24
from others - 3:12, 16

CPT:

The Wrath of Man (Matthew 27:27-44)

- go through this section and note all the different types of people who joined in mocking Christ
- Read verse 34 and then read Psalm 69 to get a picture of Christ's thoughts in this moment
 - based on this psalm, what was Christ likely thinking during these moments on the cross?
 - What was He asking the Father for?
- read and discuss the following article:
<http://www.angelfire.com/nd/baptistpreacher/ser081.htm>

The Wrath of God (Matthew 27:45-50)

- here we see the wrath of God on display - specifically verse 46. Read psalm 22, written four centuries before crucifixion was invented, to see what the wrath of God looks like towards God.
 - what was Christ denied that He was clearly asking for in psalm 69?
 - Jesus cried out to God, not His Father here. He was forsaken so we would never have to be.
- read and discuss the following article:
<http://carm.org/does-god-hate-anyone>

Reconciliation (Matthew 27:51-54)

- based on, Colossians 1:15-18, what was God reconciling to Himself here?
- Matthew points out four areas specifically that were reconciled through this event.
 - 27:51 points to Hebrews 10:19-22, reconciliation to the Father
 - 27:51 points to Romans 8:18-25, reconciliation to the Creation
 - 27:52 points to 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, reconciliation to the flesh
 - 27:51, 54, points to Ephesians 2:11-16, reconciliation to others
- read and discuss the following article:
<http://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/cosmic-reconciliation/>

Main Idea:

religious activity will not reconcile us to God
environmentalism will not reconcile us to Creation
self esteem will not reconcile us to our flesh
political compromise will not reconcile us to one another
the cross will

Application:

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, and discuss how to apply this message specifically.

Making Peace -sermon study -Matthew 27:27-54

- how will your group fill your group with people who need to be reconciled?
- how will your group fill your church with people who need to be reconciled?
- there is no plan B. You guys, your convictions and your efforts are THE plan.
 - i am praying so hard that our groups take this week to get really serious about sharing the gospel and inviting people to church.