

...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembly together...but encouraging one another.
Heb 10:24-25

Share the teaching
Guard the sharing

Male Call

March 21, 2008—Atonement—So, What's the Problem?

6:00 – 6:05	Coffee & Donuts Opening Prayer
6:05 – 7:00	<p>1) Jesus says he is the solution: <i>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (Jn 3:17, NIV)</i></p> <p>2) John the Baptist and Jesus tell us how he will save the world: <i>The next day [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (Jn 1:29 ESV)</i></p> <p><i>For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. (Jn 10:17, NASB)</i></p> <p>3) Jesus and Paul help out: <i>This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. (Jn 3:19)</i></p> <p>a) What does Jesus describe as the problem?</p> <p><i>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! (Romans 5:8-10)</i></p> <p>b) What does Paul describe as the problem?</p> <p>4) Group exercise: Exactly what is sin? a) Read Genesis 3:1-19 b) What are the four broken relationships described in this passage?</p> <p>5) Video clip—Not the Way It's Supposed To Be</p>

	<p>6) Group exercise:</p> <p>a) Read Gen 1:26-31; 2:18-25; 3:8</p> <p>b) How is it supposed to be?</p> <p>7) Violation of <i>shalom</i></p> <p>a) Read Mt 5:21-22; 5:27-28; 5:31-32; 5:38-39; 5:43-44</p> <p>b) Recall the four broken relationships from above</p> <p>c) What, then, is sin?</p>
7:00	Closing Prayer

Further reading:

- The *Bible*
- Volf, Miroslav. *Free of Charge: Giving and Receiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace*. Zondervan, 2005.
- McKnight, Scot. *A Community Called Atonement*. Abingdon Press, 2007.
- Plantinga, Cornelius. *Not The Way It's Supposed To Be: A Breviary of Sin*. Eerdmans, 1995.
- Wright, N.T. *Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship*. Eerdmans, 1994.