

## Getting Started

1. Which do you prefer more, Christmas or Easter? Explain.
2. During Christmas we can celebrate all the blessings God has given to us in Jesus Christ. How are you blessing others this Christmas?
3. What are your thoughts on Jesus suffering on our behalf? Is it fair that he suffered and we do not have to? Should we suffer for our sin?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

## Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 44:

**Q. Why does the creed add, "He descended to hell"?**

A. To assure me during attacks of deepest dread and temptation that Christ my Lord, by suffering unspeakable anguish, pain, and terror of soul, on the cross but also earlier, has delivered me from hellish anguish and torment.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Isa. 53; Matt. 26:36-46; 27:45-46; Luke 22:44; Heb. 5:7-10

Does this mean that Jesus did descend to hell?

6. Read all of Romans 8. How is Romans 8:1-4 setting up the whole chapter? What point is Paul trying to make?
7. In Romans 8:3 we read "[Jesus] condemned sin in the flesh." This means there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. We have been set free from Jesus Christ. Throughout Romans 8 we come to see that we are not under the law, and also are set free from sin's dominion. Read Romans 6:14-23. What does this mean for how we ought to live our lives?
8. Read Hebrews 10:1, 2, 10 & 14. How do these verses coincide with what we read in Romans 8?

## Application

9. When we dwell on all the sins we have committed it is easy to be overwhelmed by them. Thankfully, Jesus suffered so that we do not have to by taking our sin on himself. All we have to do is repent, by asking God for forgiveness and we are freed. Let us celebrate our acceptance and security in our faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

Ross Community Reformed Church  
Pastor Shawn Gerbers · December 13th, 2015

**I Believe...**

**“Suffering and Gain”**

By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:3, 4

**I believe...**

- **Jesus took the \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ on our \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **I \_\_\_\_\_ new \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ \_\_\_\_\_!**

Topics: Jesus, Sin, Suffering, Salvation