



Part 1: What is the Line?

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Jesus Draws the Line

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?" – *Mark 8:34-36*

What is Crossing the Line?

Moving beyond the point of no return to follow Jesus on the journey from death to life.

In fulfilling his mission to save His people from their sin, Jesus crossed the lines of:

1) Humility

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. – *Isaiah 53:2*

2) Rejection

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. – *Isaiah 53:3*

3) Pain

Surely, he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. – *Isaiah 53:4*

4) Punishment

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. – *Isaiah 53:5*

5) Becoming Sin

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. – *Isaiah 53:6*

6) Silence

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. – *Isaiah 53:7*

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7) Guilt

Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. – *Isaiah 53:10*

8) Completion

After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. – *Isaiah 53:10-12*

Have you crossed the line?

Next Steps

Can you cross the line from good intentions to action and change a child's life by sponsoring an orphan who desperately needs your help? Stop by the table in the Commons and cross the line!

Can you cross the line of purpose and choose to fully enter into the Easter experience this year? Plan now to walk through Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter weekend.

On Your Way Home

How many lines can you find on your way home? Are the lines for your protection or do they make your life miserable?

Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) Name a reality TV show (Survivor, America's Next Top Model, Amazing Race, The Bachelor, America's Got Talent, The Apprentice, Top Chef, etc.) that you think you could actually win. Why would you prevail?
- 2) What is the greatest challenge that you currently face or have overcome in your life?
- 3) In what ways have you crossed the line in your journey with God?
- 4) Read all of Isaiah 53 again. Which of the lines listed in the outline above are you most thankful that Jesus crossed? How does that line-crossing affect you?
- 5) How will make Jesus the center of your Easter celebration this year?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?