



ENTER INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

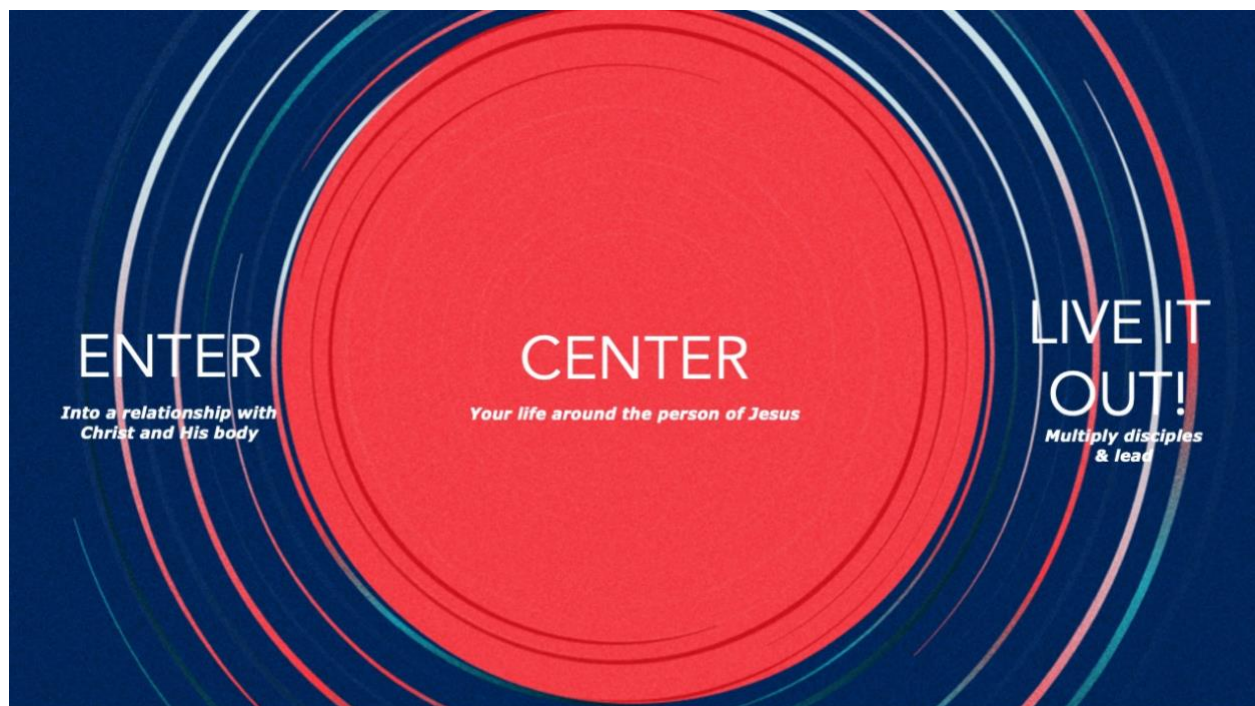
The Original Plan

Welcome to Revolve!

We're so excited to walk alongside with you in this amazing journey of making Jesus the Axis (*the Center*) of our lives where everything REVOLVES around the person of Christ. When this is true, all things in life and eternity are restored into the perfect balance God intended for our lives and for His glory!

Colossians 1:16-17 "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Now, for our lives to revolve around the person of Jesus, we first need to ENTER into a relationship with Him, which is God's original plan since the beginning.



I. THE ORIGINAL PLAN

God’s original plan for humanity was for us to have an intimate relationship with our Creator, but that relationship was broken because of our rebellion against God.

Genesis 3:27-28 “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

But we rebelled against His authority and His Word (Read Gen. 3 for the full story)

Gen. 3:23-34 “...therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

II. THE DISTORTION OF THE ORIGINAL PLAN

As a consequence for breaking our relationship with God, all mankind became subject to:

1. Suffering and Conflict:

Gen. 3:16 To the woman, God said: “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you...”

To the man God said (v. 17): “...in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life.”

2. Hard Labor and Physical Death:

Gen. 3:19 “By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

3. Eternal Death:

Genesis 3:22 “Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever— therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden...”

III. THE RESTORATION OF THE ORIGINAL PLAN

Right after the Fall, God foretold His plan of defeating the evil one (Satan-represented by the snake) and his plan to destroy God’s relationship with His humankind.

Genesis 3:15 “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

This means that from the offspring of the woman was going to come One, who was going to kill or defeat (bruise in the head) of Satan (the snake) to rescue mankind from Satan’s plan of destruction. Now, this was not going to happen without Satan attempting to kill the One first (bruise the heel).

This sent One by God is Jesus Christ. The word Christ is actually a Hebrew word that literally means “The Sent One.” Jesus is the Christ, who came to rescue and restore us into God’s original plan for creating us- which was to have an intimate and eternal relationship with Him.

1. Jesus claimed to be the promised Messiah:

Luke 4:16-21 “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. 17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” 20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

2. It was prophesied that the Messiah was going to be rejected, suffer and put His life down with the ultimate goal to make reparation (or atonement) for the sins of the world:

Isaiah 53:3-6 “ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

REVOLVE Step 1 – The Original Plan

Axis Church

This is why it was necessary for Jesus to die on a cross. He presented himself as a “peace offering” for mankind to be RESCUED and RESTORED to God’s original plan.

1. Through Christ we have peace with God:

Romans 5:1 “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

2. In Christ our sins (rebellion) have been forgiven:

Ephesians 1:7-10 “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite (to restore) all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.”

3. In Christ, the original plan is restored:

Colossians 1:13 “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

IV. IT IS ALL BY GRACE

Salvation from our condition of separation from God, eternal death and suffering after the Fall cannot be accomplished by any human effort or merit. Salvation is only possible by GRACE alone, through FATIH alone, in CHRIST alone.

*Ephesians 2:5-9 “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. **4 But God,** being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Galatians 2:16 “know that a man is not justified by works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.”

V. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BE RESTORED TO MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

This salvation and rescuing process is all God's initiative and work. The Father designed it, the Son executed it and the Holy Spirit guarantees it. We only need to: repent, believe and receive this message.

Mark 1:15 "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

John 1:12 "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,"

Romans 8:10-12 "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

If you haven't repented, believed and received in Jesus as your Lord and Savior or you aren't 100% sure of your salvation, I encourage you to pray these words with me.

Pray with me: Lord, I recognize I have rebelled against you and your Word-that the consequences of my disobedience are separation from you, death and suffering. I also recognize, there's nothing I can do to save myself from my condition but you in your great love and mercy, You sent your son Jesus Christ to be presented as a living sacrifice for my transgression and it is only through Him that my relationship with you can be restored, that I can be forgiven and rescued from the Kingdom of darkness and transferred back into your Kingdom. Jesus, today I repent from my sins, I believe in my heart you are the Messiah, and I receive your salvation by grace.

Thank you for restoring me to Yourself today!



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

We encourage you to take a few minutes during the week to reflect and answer these questions with your own words. If you have questions feel free to reach out to your discipler and then make sure you share your final answers with him/her before the next lesson. Grateful for you!

1. What is God’s original plan for your life from the beginning of the Creation?
2. What distorted God’s original plan?
3. How is that plan restored? Can you name at least 3 blessings we receive when that happens in our lives?
4. How is one saved?
5. Do you know for sure that you have been saved? Why or why not?

Memorize and treasure in your heart this powerful Bible verse:

Colossians 1:13 “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.