

THROUGH CHRIST ALONE

1 Timothy 2:1-7

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What is a mediator? What is a mediator's purpose and goal?
- Have you ever felt terrified or intimidated to speak to God? Why? Or, if not, can you identify a time when you distinctly felt a seemingly impassable gulf between you and God because of your feelings of imperfection or unworthiness?

It may be hard for lifelong Christians to believe that it's possible for someone to believe that our salvation can come through anything, but Christ alone. Yet our actions and lives as Christians often contradict this teaching more than we realize. Join Groundwork to explore the historical church context and scriptures that led Martin Luther and the Reformers to emphatically declare *Solus Christus* (salvation through Christ alone). Then, think critically about how our everyday Christian faith reflects whether or not we really trust and believe that our salvation comes through Christ alone.

Listen: [Through Christ Alone](#)

Reflection

- Describe what it means to you to be in God's presence. When do you feel God's presence most? Our God so greatly desired to be in communion with us after the Fall that he took it upon himself to restore communion with us instead of giving up on us. Juxtapose this truth with other messages about your worth and how you gain access to the divine that you hear from non-Christians, media, and other worldly sources. What differences can you identify?
- Reflect on host Scott Hoezee's comment in segment 2 that "*very often in Christian history and Christian theology we have to do a lot of both/and thinking. Either/or usually is the path of the Pharisee...*" Where have you found this to be true? Are there times when you find it challenging or frustrating to accept "both/and" answers? Why?
- If we do not *need* the institutional church to help us gain access to God (we gain access through salvation in Christ alone), why is the church still important and why should we *want* to be involved?
- *Before answering this question, pray that God would reveal the true reality present in your heart.* Are you trying to add anything to the requirements for salvation, or as host Dave Bast said in segment 3, "*adding on to Christ or trusting in other things*"? As you contemplate your answer, consider how you might teach a new convert to Christianity to live as a true believer. Doing this may help reveal any underlying assumptions you might have.

Related Passages

- **Job 9:32-34**
- **Exodus 20:18-21**
- **Hebrews 2:14-18**
- **Hebrews 4:14-16**

Conclusion

Twice in the episode, both Dave and guest Sue Rozeboom refer to the [Heidelberg Catechism](#). This Reformation era document gives concise answers to important theological questions that impact our faith. Sue refers to the Questions & Answers 16 and 17 in [Lord's Day 6](#) under the heading "Deliverance." Dave refers to Question & Answer 30 in [Lord's Day 11](#) under the subheading "God the Son." Read and reflect on these short theological statements. Read the scriptures from which they are drawn. Consider rewriting them in your own words. Then pray over what God has revealed to you in your study and give thanks for Jesus Christ, our mediator.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/through-christ-alone>

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