

# Good Morning

## We're glad you are here

Hymn: #31 To God Be the Glory and #528 My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Oct. 21, 2025

# Things to Know

- Women's Equipping Forum: Recalibrating Your Calendar, Oct. 23, 6:30-8:00  
Register at [2pc.org/women](https://2pc.org/women)  
*Goal: equipping women to align their calendars with Christ's priorities, drawing on Scripture to steward time and energy in ways that bring renewal and flourishing, even in demanding seasons.*
- Oct. 28: Perspectives: Discipleship of Our Children: Walk in the Footsteps of the Faith, Romans 4:12  
\*Light breakfast and fellowship at 9:00—Bring a friend!\*
- \*Please respond to our email: register and send us questions & topics
- Recommended books: Knowing God & Concise Theology, J.I. Packer; New Living Translation Bible (contemporary language, to supplement ESV translation)

## Context: Turning Point

1:18-3:20 —> 3:21-4:25

The Focus Changes...

- Unrighteousness/self-righteousness —> Righteousness of God
- God's wrath on sinners —> God's grace to sinners who believe
- Judgment —> Justification

*John Stott*

**How God Saves Sinners:**  
**The Righteousness of God is Revealed Through Justification**  
Romans 3:21-4:25

- I. God's Righteousness is Revealed, 3:21-31
  - A. Provided in Justification, 3:21-26
  - B. Explained Through Justification, 3:24-26
  - C. Based on Faith Alone, 3:27-31
- II. God's Righteousness is Illustrated, ch. 4
  - A. Faith Not Works, 4:1-8
  - B. Faith Not Religious Rituals, 4:9-12 (circumcision)
  - C. Faith Not the Law, 4:13-17
  - D. Faith in God's Promises Not by Sight, 4:18-25

Main Theme: God provides the way for anyone to be declared right with Him. (Justified)

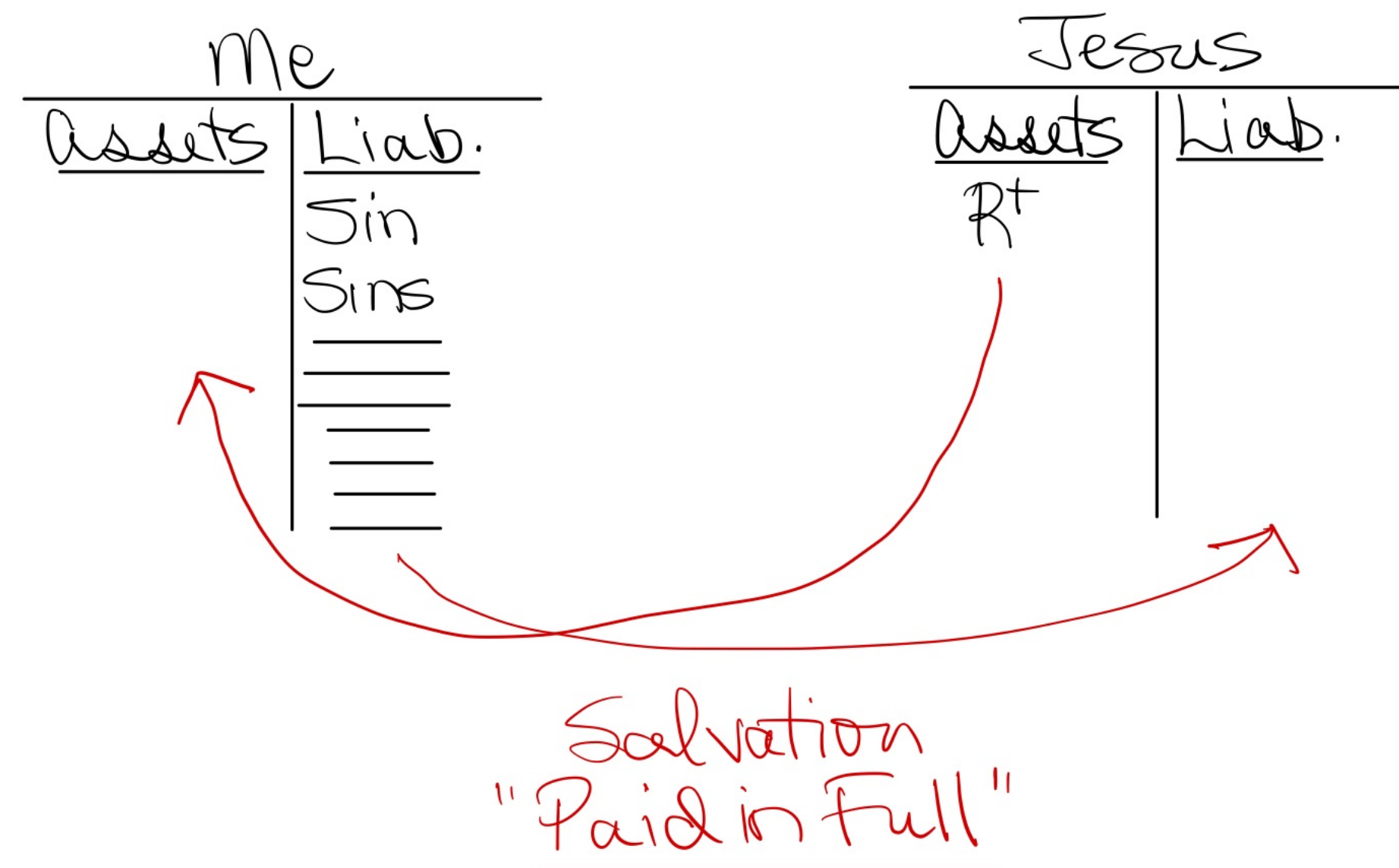
## How Can I Be Right with God? —Justification

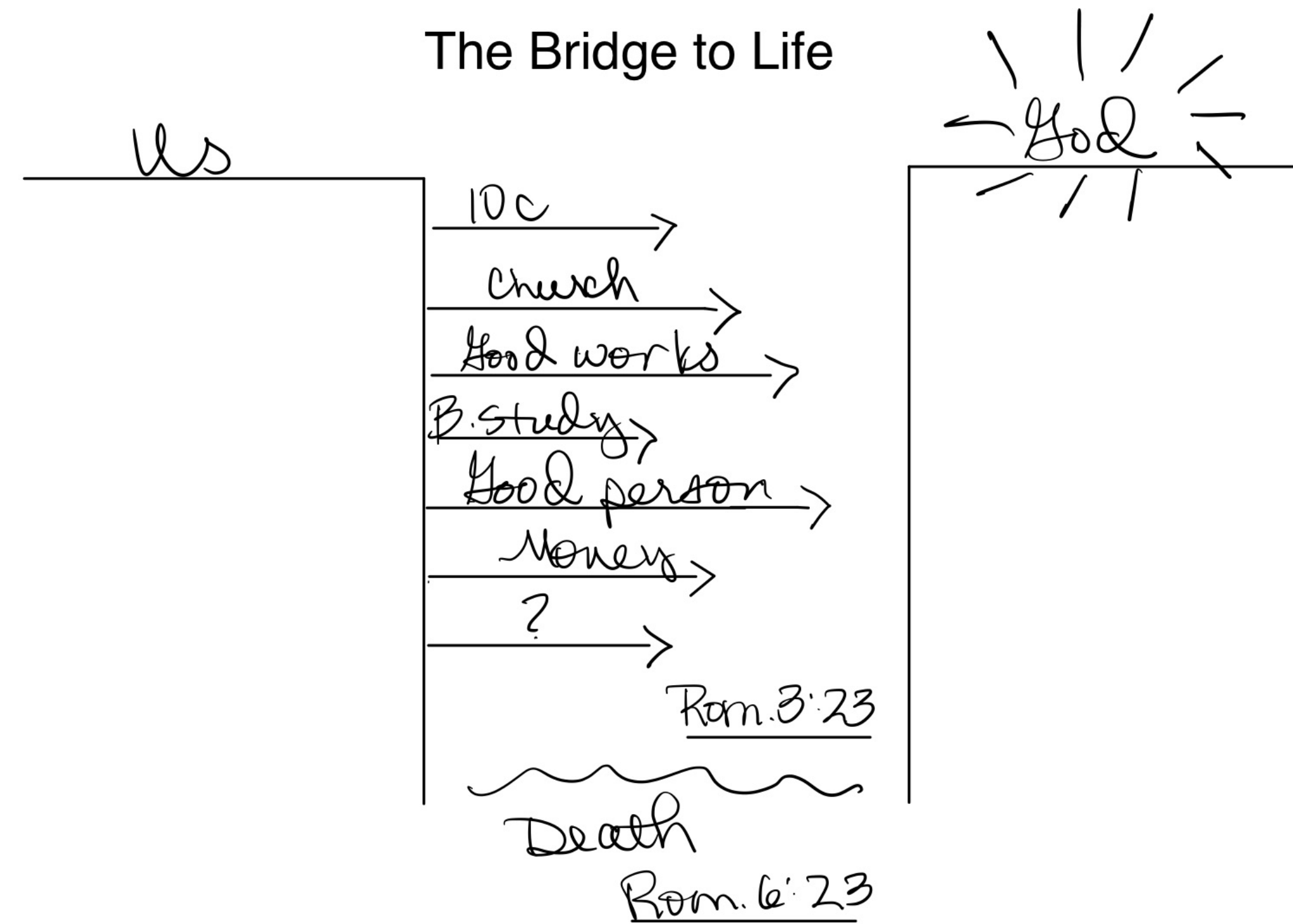
Justification: a legal term; to declare not guilty or in right standing with the law  
—the act of God whereby He declares the believing sinner righteous in Christ on the basis of the finished work of Christ on the cross

Redemption: the means through which we are justified; marketplace term—to buy out, to deliver by the payment of a price

Propitiation: carries the idea of appeasement or satisfaction, specifically toward God; the wrath of God is satisfied through the death of Christ on the Cross

Impute: used both legally and financially; to designate any action, word, or thing as credited to another person's account—crediting of something





2025 American Worldview Inventory on Americans think about sin.

— Many Americans hold contradictory views on sin.

— Source of Sin:

\*43% believe sin comes from a wicked heart

\*75% believe people are basically good at heart

\*52% of adults consider themselves sinners

— Demographic Differences:

\*41% of Gen Z (ages 18-24) believe everyone sins; also less likely than older generations to believe in the existence of sin in the first place

\*47% of adults under 50 label themselves as sinners

\*56% of adults over 50 label themselves as sinners

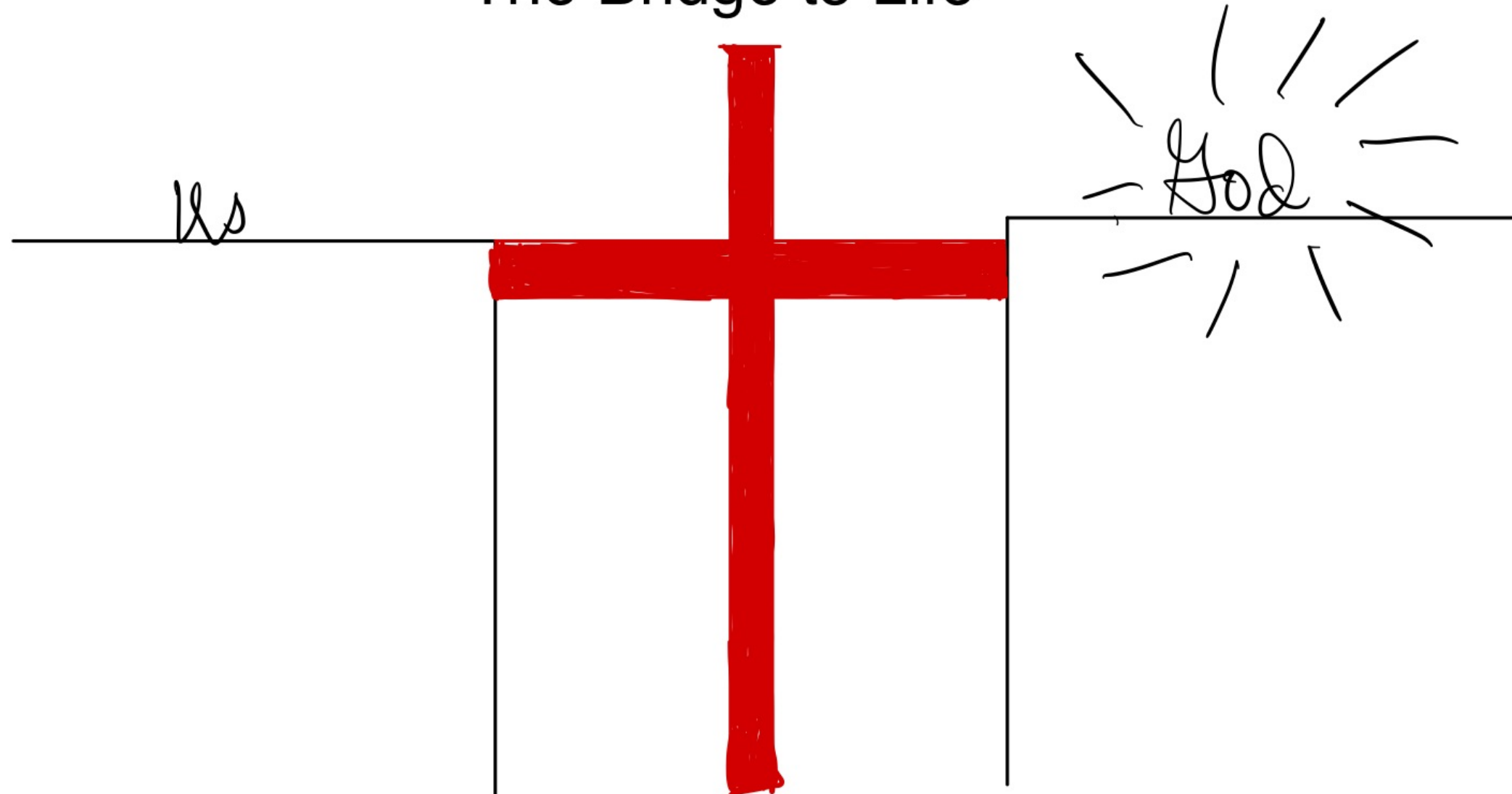
— Geography:

\*More likely to label themselves as sinners: Midwest, South

\*Less likely to label themselves as sinners: East, West

— Cultural Research Center, Arizona Christian University

# The Bridge to Life



~~Death~~  
Life  
John 3:16  
John 10:10

# Abraham's Righteousness

**Abraham illustrates justification by faith alone.**

**Counted** to him as righteousness, 4:3—to reckon, compute, calculate

- Gen. 12:4 given the promise, left for the Promised Land, 75 y.o.
- Gen. 15:6 declared righteous, no age given
- Gen. 17:24 circumcised, 99 y.o.
- Gen. 21:5 Isaac born, 100 y.o.
- Gen. 25:7-8 Died, 175 y.o.

# Righteousness

- The Chinese character is made up of two components:
- Lamb
- Me
- Literally, “lamb over me”

The image shows the Chinese character for righteousness, 義 (yì). It is a large, bold, black character centered within a white rounded square frame. The character is composed of two parts: the top part is the radical 羊 (sheep/lamb) and the bottom part is the radical 我 (me). The strokes are thick and black, with a slight shadow effect, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.