

our purpose: as men we seek to stoke the fire of our **DESIRE** for Christ

[study guide – session 5](#)

our text: *Living the Cross Centered Life* (C. J. Mahaney), p. 123-158

Q – The author begins with a quote from Spurgeon concerning the “perfect obedience” of Christ on our behalf. There are many conservative Christians who disagree with this. What do you think AND feel about that? (123)

Q – “Condemnation appears in innumerable forms” he observes. What are some forms of condemnation, either self-condemnations or group condemnations, have you been burdened with or even been a party to? (124)

Q – The paragraph in which the author mentions “grace-motivated obedience” is a power paragraph. What does “grace-motivated obedience” mean to you and why is it the best way to live? (126)

Q – The importance of preaching to yourself comes up again in Chapter 13. What 5 ways does the author give us for how to have a Cross Centered Day? If you were to add a 6th way what would you suggest? (131-145)

Q – Every cult, sect or false religion that has some commonality with Christianity gets the Cross wrong. How does Chamblin’s quote demonstrate the centrality of the Cross to Christianity? (147)

Q – Based on what the author discusses on page 149 how would you complete this statement?

If the Gospel is the center of the Christian life, then the _____ is the center of the Gospel.

Q – There are many theological systems for interpreting the Bible. Some are helpful and others not so much. Seeing the Scripture as “the drama of _____ is probably the simplest, most helpful and truest lens. What book does the author recommend to understand this Story and theme? (151) How does this unifying story/theme fit in the **lifeCORE Essentials and Affirmations**?

Q – What should be the “main thing” in our lives and churches? (156) How can secondary matters push it out of first place? I tell my Sunday Bible study group that we should never stop asking the question, “What is the Gospel?” Is this advice redundant or unnecessary? If not, why not?