



Week Three | The Cross

Key Things You Heard

- Does what they did to Jesus make you angry?
- Do you feel sadness and pity at what happened to Jesus?
- Can you look at the cross with all the conflict, all the contradiction, the chaos, and the corruption in your heart... and still say, "It is well with my soul"?

Pray

Heavenly Father, Thank you so much for the death of Jesus on the cross. Try as we may, we can never fully grasp the pain, agony, and suffering of Jesus at that moment. But from the place we can understand, we want to say thank you. Thank you for loving us so much. Thank you for pursuing us. Thank you for being enough. And thank you for doing for us what we could never do for ourselves. In the might name of our suffering and victorious Savior, amen.

Tweetable Moments

- "When we think about the cross, we are trying to understand the inescapable price for our sins."
- "When we own what happened to Jesus personally, a desperation forms that has to be addressed.."

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Questions for Conversation

Icebreaker: What was your experience as you watched, *The Passion of the Christ*?

- Before you read any scripture, have your group start at the point where Jesus is before Pilot and recount the crucifixion and his burial events as best they can. Then, read Mark 15 and discuss the things that may have been left out or out of order.
- Jesus was beaten, reviled, and crucified for you. How do you internalize that 2,000 years removed from the event?
- Having listened to the sermon about the cross, read Matthew 16:24-25. How does knowing about the events of the crucifixion impact your interpretation of this verse?
- Can you look at the cross with all the conflict, all the contradiction, the chaos, and the corruption in your heart and still say, "It is well with my soul"? Why? If this is true, should it be shared? Why? What is something that you can do to bring someone to hear the story of Jesus on Easter?

Now Go Do It (resources and next steps)

Challenge: There is one response to the message this week that can be impactful for your group. Read John 19:17-30, then take communion together.

If you have not already done so, identify the person you want to bring to Easter service, then pray for them and make a plan to connect with them.

For personal study and to prepare for Easter, watch, *The Six Miracles of Calvary* on RightNow Media. <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/199158>.