

Jesus: Who Is He? The Crucified Christ

Opening Questions

- Describe what comes to mind when you hear the word "crucifixion". How do we use crosses and crucifixes today? Why?
- 2. When did you first learn about Jesus' crucifixion? What did you initially understand?
- 3. What unanswered questions do you have about Pastor Slack's message or Jesus' crucifixion?

In the Word

- Read Luke 23:26-49 (compare the other gospel accounts of the crucifixion also in John 19:16-30, Matthew 27:32-54, Mark 15:21-39).
- 2. How do the gospels each uniquely describe Jesus' crucifixion? What are the striking differences and similarities? What do we learn from them?
- 3. Looking at Luke's gospel again (23:26-49), make a list as a group of the ten most important points or details about the crucifixion. What do we learn from those details?
- 4. The Bible describes Jesus' crucifixion in a number of different ways. Look at these four:
 - Passover Meal and Exodus-Jesus' death, burial and resurrection provide New Testament meaning to the most important events in the Old Testament (Exodus 1-14).
 - b. Blood sacrifice-(Acts 20:28, Colossians 1:19-20, 1 Peter 1:18-19, Hebrews 13:11-12).

- c. Ransom and redemption-(Isaiah 60:15-19, Luke 4:18-19).
- d. Substitution-(Isaiah 53, Galatians 3:10-14, 1 Peter 2:20-24).
- 5. When you consider the ways to view and understand Jesus' crucifixion from question 4, which one is most meaningful to you personally? Why? Which are less known in the church? Why?

Making It Personal

- Following Jesus means taking up the cross and that leads to certain suffering. In what ways do you believe Christians suffer for following Jesus in America? Other countries? In what ways do you suffer because of your faith in Jesus?
- 2. Ransom and redeemed also means Jesus' followers belong to God—we're not our own and our true homes are heaven not earth. On a daily basis, how should this truth inform our decisions and efforts?
- 3. What strikes you personally about God's cost (self-abandonment, death) through Jesus Christ? How should that affect our faith and following Jesus?
- 4. Spend time in prayer—repentance and praise as a group for God's mercy, grace and forgiveness.
- 5. Commit this week to sacrificing something to which you're entitled for someone else's benefit then report back to the group. Sacrifice anonymously if possible.

Continued Learning

 Look at Jesus' crucifixion from a medical point of view at www1.cbn.com/medical-view-of-the-crucifixion-of-jesus-christ. What do we learn? What do we take for granted?

Additional Notes

