

PBC Growing in Christ

Reverends Patrick and Stephanie Burrage

April 4, 2021

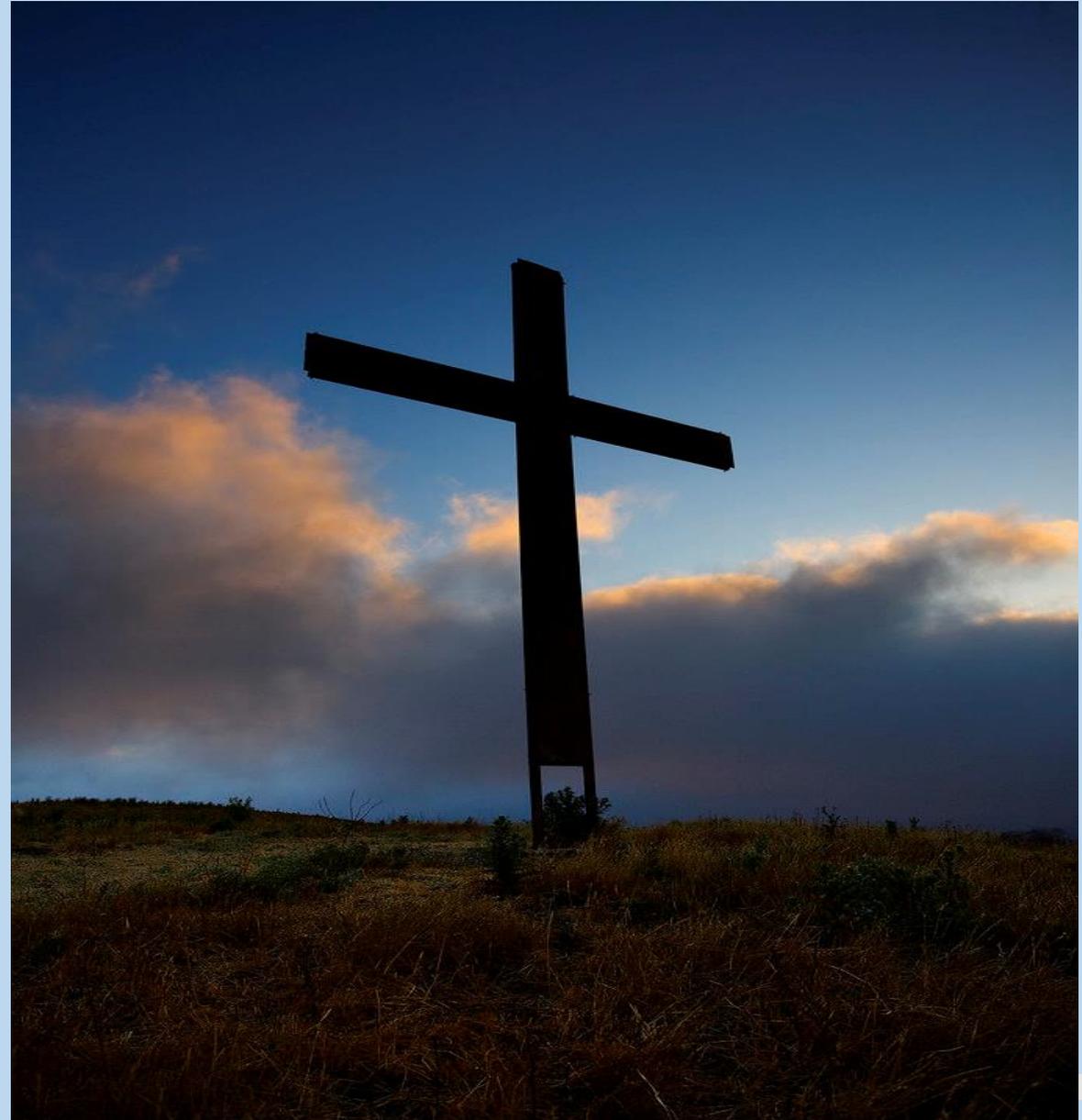
Class Norms

A large black cross silhouette stands in a field of dry grass under a blue sky with light clouds. The cross is the central focus, with its vertical post and horizontal arms clearly visible against the sky. The field in the foreground is filled with dry, brownish grass, and the sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a lighter, hazy blue near the horizon where some clouds are visible.

- Place your microphone on mute.
- Use the chat room. Located in the upper right of the screen.
- Interact in the class just raise your hand. The instructor will take you off mute.
- Technology may not always work....please be patient.
- God is always in the midst
- Enjoy the class.

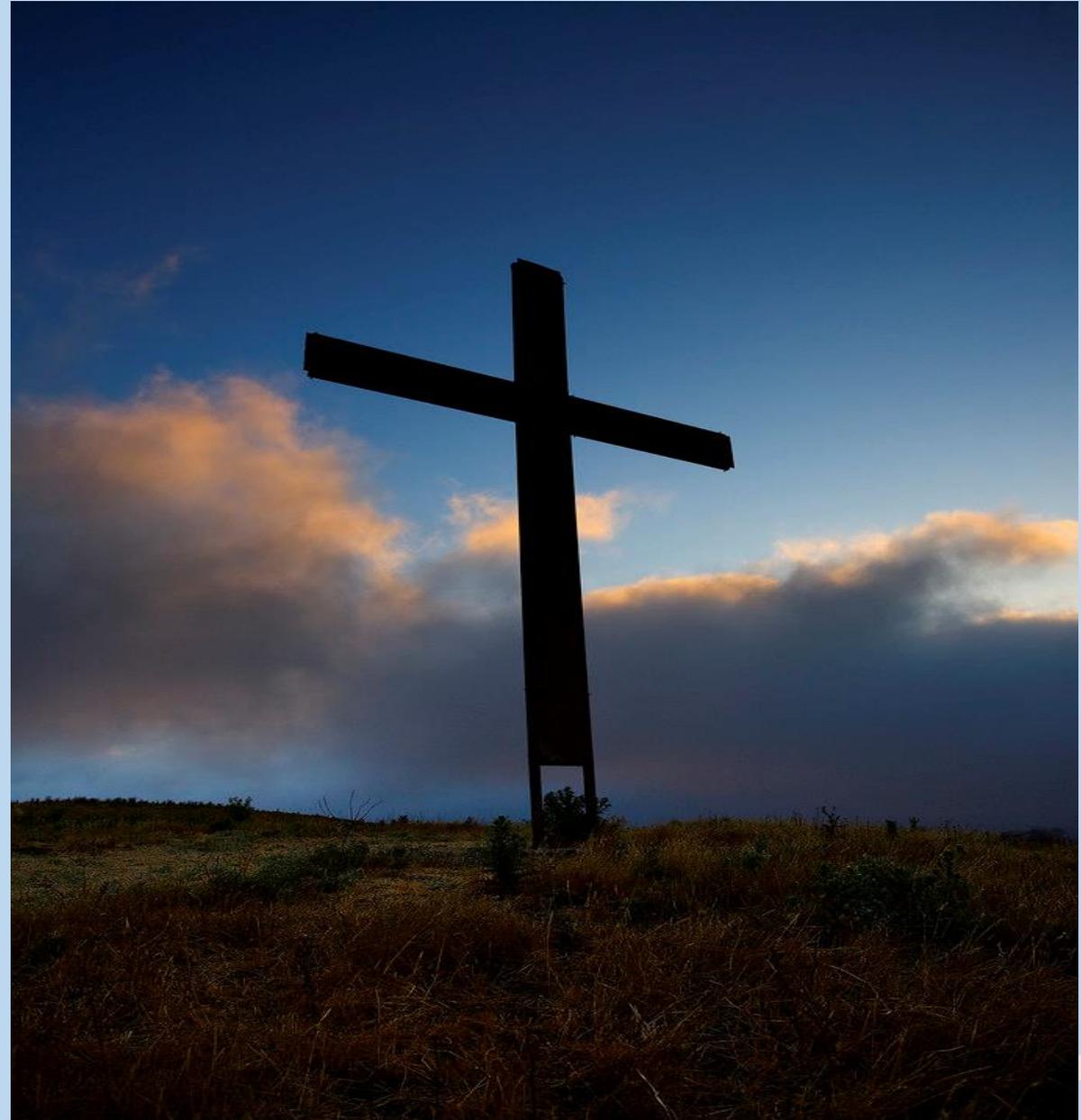
Growing in Christ

- Every day is an opportunity to grow in the word.
- Growing in Christ will tackle real life issues, while studying the bible for its answers.
- Examine challenges believers and non-believers face every day.
- Growing in Christ bible study will focus on how Christians face challenges and how the bible addresses these issues.



Growing in Christ

To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:12-13 (NIV)





The Death of Jesus

John 19:8-11, 16b-18, 28-30

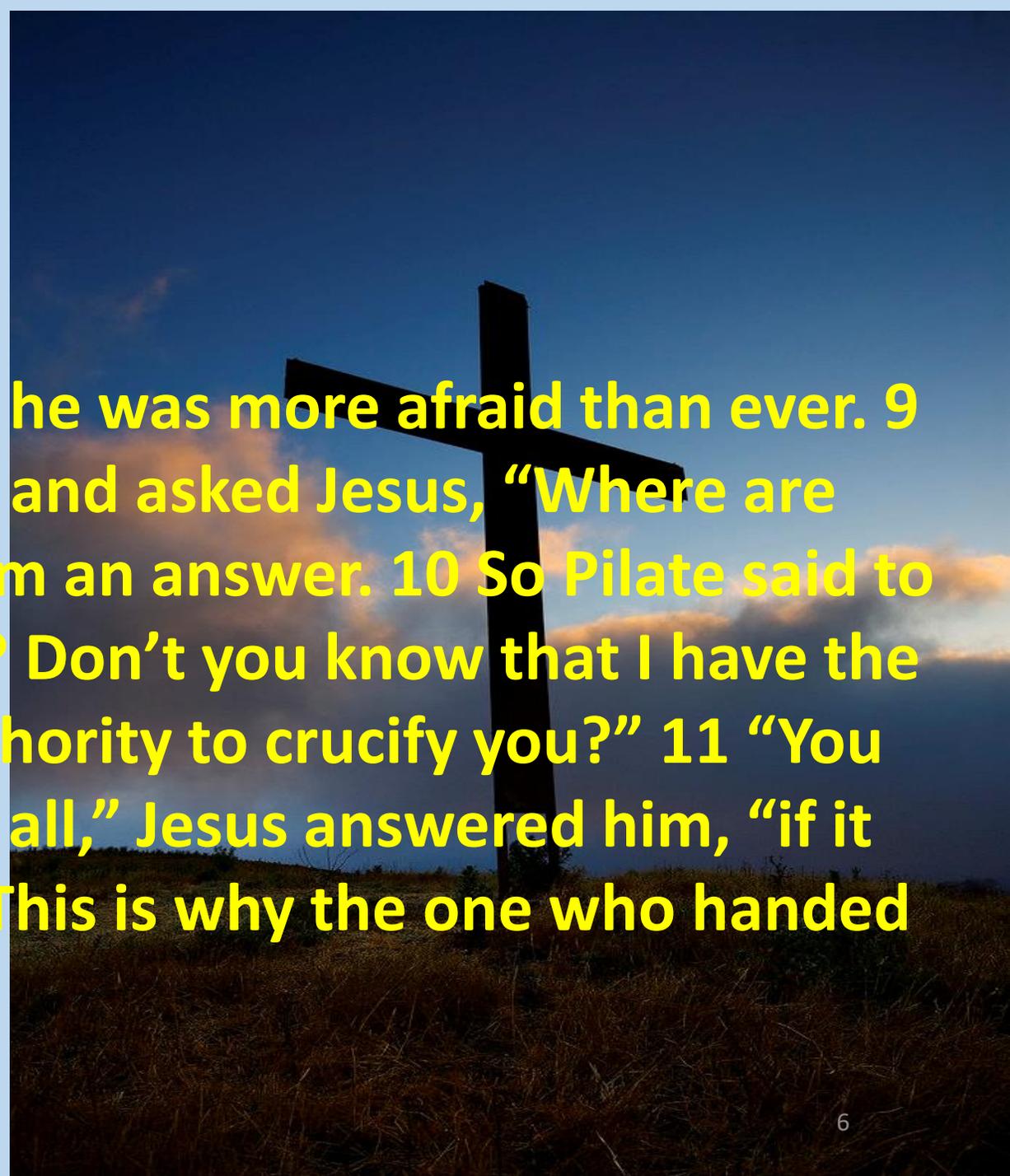
When have you been frustrated by your inability to fix something?

Scripture

The Death of Jesus

John 19:8-11

8 When Pilate heard this statement, he was more afraid than ever. 9 He went back into the headquarters and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus did not give him an answer. 10 So Pilate said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Don’t you know that I have the authority to release you and the authority to crucify you?” 11 “You would have no authority over me at all,” Jesus answered him, “if it hadn’t been given you from above. This is why the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.”





The Death of Jesus John 19:8-11

How does God's authority differ from the authority exercised by institutions in your life?

What evidence do you see in these verses that God was in control?



The Death of Jesus

John 19:8-11

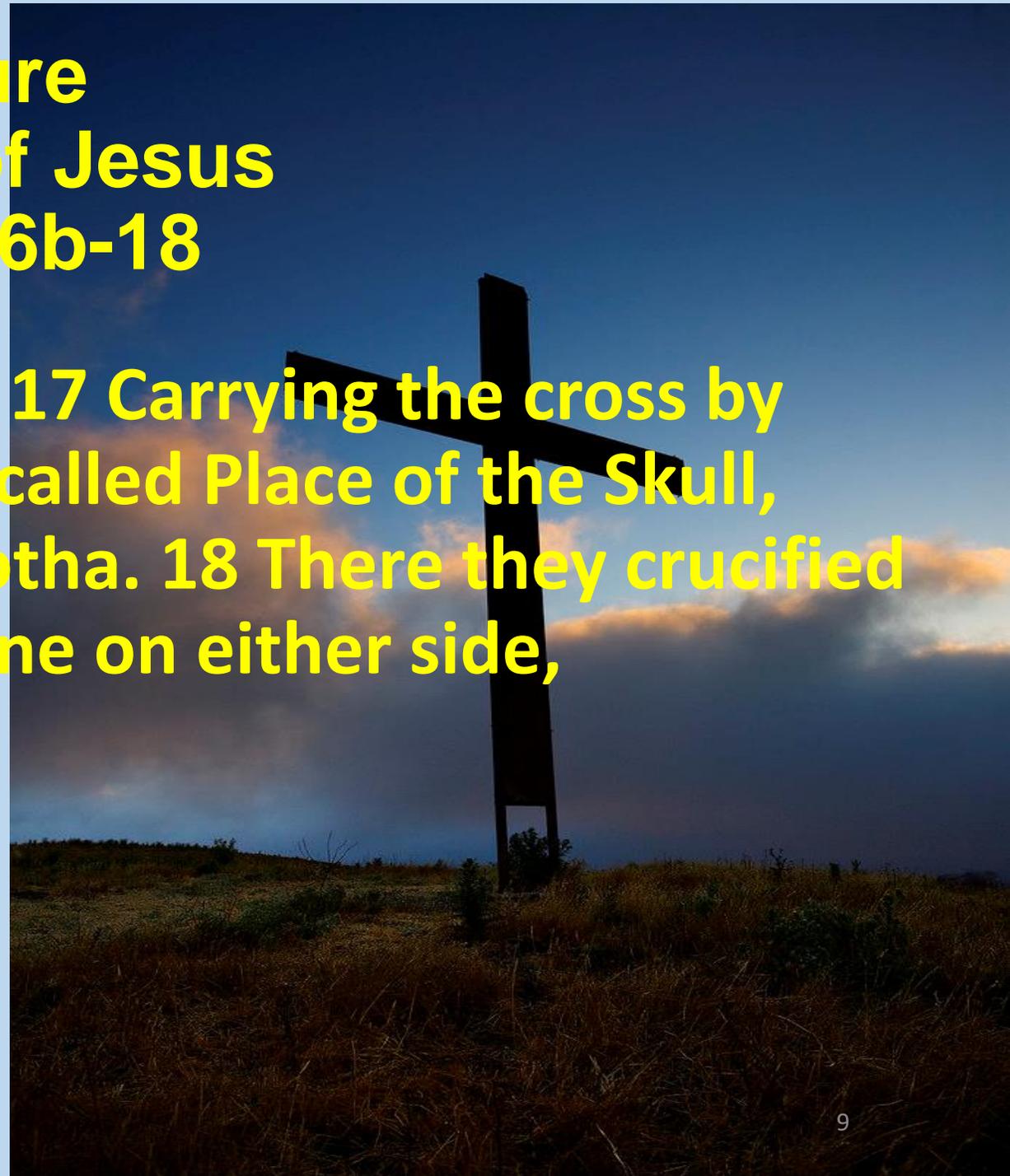
- Pilate was in a bit of a pickle. As far as he could tell, the tension between Jesus and the Jewish leaders was just that: tension. Jesus had said things the Jewish leaders didn't like.
- Jesus could have fought for His innocence and started an argument. Instead, He humbled Himself and turned Himself over to the whims of the angry mob.
- Jesus understood that even though things seemed to be spiraling into chaos, everything was actually functioning perfectly within the Father's plan.
- Even when the circumstance seemed out of control, Jesus was able to complete His task, knowing full well He was held perfectly in the center of God's will.

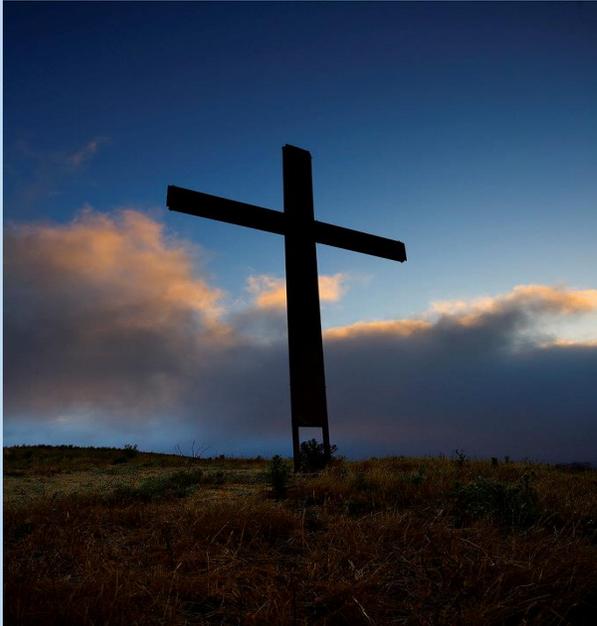
Scripture

The Death of Jesus

John 19:16b-18

16b Then they took Jesus away. 17 Carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called Place of the Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. 18 There they crucified him and two others with him, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.





The Death of Jesus John 19:16b-18

**What emotions do you experience
when you think about Jesus'
crucifixion?**

**When have you been overwhelmed
by the sacrifice Jesus made for you?**



The Death of Jesus

John 19:16b-18

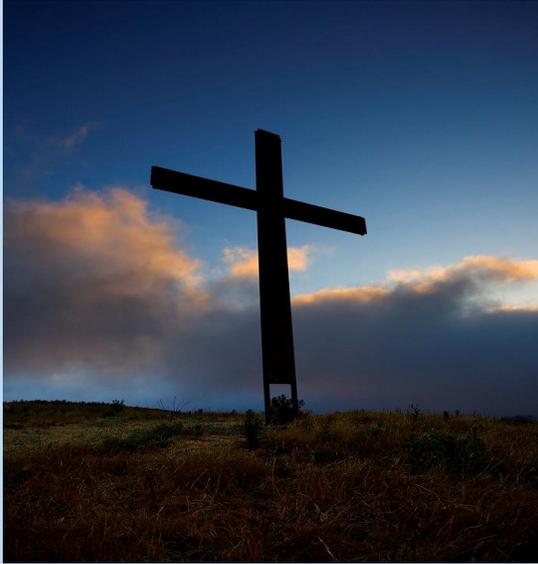
- As Jesus carried the cross by Himself, He was walking a path reserved for us. As He was nailed in place, His hands and feet were nailed when it should have been our hands and feet. And when He died, He died a death we deserved, to pay a price we could never afford.

Scripture

The Death of Jesus

John 19:28-30

28 After this, when Jesus knew that everything was now finished that the Scripture might be fulfilled, he said, "I'm thirsty." 29 A jar full of sour wine was sitting there; so they fixed a sponge full of sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it up to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished." Then bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

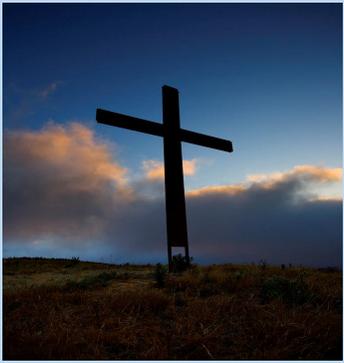


The Death of Jesus

John 19:28-30

What makes the images in these verses an effective way to describe our lives in sin?

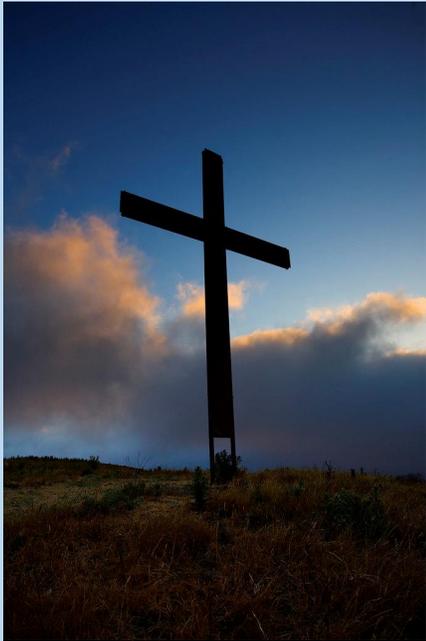
How have you experienced the futility of trying to deal with your sin by yourself?



The Death of Jesus

John 19:28-30

- Before coming to faith in Christ, we're all enslaved to sin, spiritually dead, and in possession of a debt far greater than we can pay on our own.
- On our own, we were less than powerless. We were blind people stumbling down the street, dead people with no hope for revival. But God decided that something had to change, and since none of us could do it ourselves, He did. It was God who delivered a way for us to be free of the debt of our sin.
- Without salvation from the sin that infests our hearts, we are completely without hope. But His intervention breathed hope and life into our dismal condition.



GROWING IN CHRIST IN ACTION

APRIL 4, 2021,

- **Lay down the burden.** Reflect on all Jesus has saved you from. Sin is an exhausting burden to bear, but because of Jesus' sacrifice, you don't have to carry it. Spend time in prayer, thanking Him for forgiving your sins.
- **Offer your forgiveness.** Since you have been forgiven by the blood of Christ, ask God if there are those from whom you've been withholding your own forgiveness. Reach out to them.
- **Share the message.** The forgiveness and salvation Jesus provided through His death is available to all. Share this truth with a friend who doesn't know Christ.



Final thoughts about The Nature of Sin

- Despite the fact that humanity rebelled against God, He still loves us. He loved us so much that He did what we could never do for ourselves. God sent His Son to bear the punishment we justly deserve for our sins.

Resources

- [BIBLE-Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth](#)
- Bible.com





Next Week: April 4, 2021 The Resurrection of Jesus

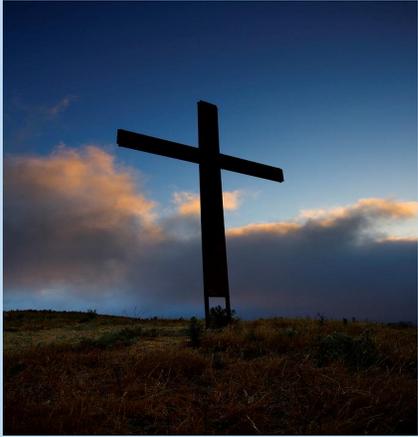
THE POINT

New life is possible when we trust in the risen Christ.

THE PASSAGE

John 20:3-9, 19-23, 27-29

What are some things once thought impossible that have become a reality?



Bible Study Session Date of Essentials of Christianity

- | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | March 7, 2021 | The Nature of God | John 14:8-11,16-20,23-26 |
| 2 | March 14, 2021 | The Purpose of Humanity | Genesis 1:1-5,26-31 |
| 3 | March 21, 2021 | The Nature of Sin | Isaiah 59:1-13 |
| 4 | March 28, 2021 | The Death of Jesus | John 19:8-11,16b-18,28-30 |
| 5 | April 4, 2021 | The Resurrection of Jesus | John 20:3-9,19-23,27-29 |
| 6 | April 11, 2021 | The Work of the Holy Spirit | John 15:26-27; 16:7-15 |
| 7 | April 18, 2021 | The Return of Jesus | Matthew 24:3-8,29-32,42-44 |



God Bless You!

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