

# 11

JOHN 19:17-22,25-30,38-42

## IT IS FINISHED

### THIS WEEK'S focus

Author Dan Allender says that our greatest fear isn't death—it's shame.<sup>1</sup> You probably have proof of this in your life: Is there anything that feels more horrible than being humiliated? After the accusations, the unfair arrest, the flogging, and the ridiculing, Jesus underwent the pain and humiliation of crucifixion on a cross that held a sign: "The King of the Jews." The phrase was used to mock Him, but nothing could undo its truth. Jesus endured much, and yet every detail went according to God's royal plan. What Jesus's accusers, abusers, and doubters couldn't see was that His kingdom truly was not of this world—it was much greater, and it was built in an upside-down way. Earthly kingdoms are built by leaders who kill and oppress others, but Jesus's kingdom would be built through His death. He died so that we might live.



### CENTRAL truth

Jesus is our King, and He died so that we might live.



EXPLORE

# scripture

JOHN 19:17-22,25-30,38-42

## JOHN 19:17-22

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. 19 Pilate also had a sign made and put on the cross. It said: Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. 20 Many of

the Jews read this sign, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. 21 So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Don't write, 'The king of the Jews,' but that he said, 'I am the king of the Jews.'" 22 Pilate replied, "What I have written, I have written."

## JOHN 19:25-30

25 Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. 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.

## JOHN 19:38-42

38 After this, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus — but secretly because of his fear of the Jews — asked Pilate that he might remove Jesus's body. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and took his body away. 39 Nicodemus (who had previously come to him at night) also came, bringing a mixture of about seventy-five pounds of myrrh

and aloes. 40 They took Jesus's body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the fragrant spices, according to the burial custom of the Jews. 41 There was a garden in the place where he was crucified. A new tomb was in the garden; no one had yet been placed in it. 42 They placed Jesus there because of the Jewish day of preparation and since the tomb was nearby.

# DAILY devotions

MEMORIZE JOHN 19:30

## 7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

# LUKE 23:39-43

## DWELL

Even the men being crucified next to Jesus (see also John 19:16-22) were impacted by Him—though each of them was impacted differently. One mocked Him as the soldiers did. Ironically, he taunted Jesus to save them, not understanding that Jesus's work on the cross was the ultimate rescue plan. However, the other criminal knew Jesus was the way to God's kingdom.

← What kinds of responses did people have to Jesus's kingship?



What does the criminal on the cross teach you about what it takes to enter God's kingdom?

## MEMORIZE

Using colored pencils or pens, creatively write out John 19:30 on a piece of paper. Read the verse out loud five times. Finally, try to say it out loud five times without looking, trying to picture it in your mind instead.

## PRAY

Praise Jesus for refusing to save Himself so that He could save others. No other king is like this!

day 2

# JOHN 19:23-27

## DWELL

The details about Jesus's clothing may seem random, but think about it: not only was Jesus in great physical pain on the cross, but He was also humiliated! Crucifixion was designed to crush a person's dignity. This helps us remember another important part of Scripture: when Adam and Eve sinned, they instantly realized they were naked and felt ashamed. In His mercy, God covered them (see Gen. 3:7,21). Likewise, Jesus was naked and ashamed on the cross so that we might be covered.

↓ When have you felt “naked and ashamed”?  
What does it mean that Christ has covered you?

↔ How can you encourage someone else with this truth?

## MEMORIZE

Invent motions that match the words in John 19:30, and practice them while saying the words out loud a few times. It probably feels a little weird, but hey, sometimes movement can help engage our brains!

## PRAY

Share with the Lord something you've done that you worry His sacrifice cannot cover—and ask Him to help you see the truth. For those who look to Jesus, it is all covered.

day 3

# JOHN 19:28-30

## DWELL

We understand the concept of works-based salvation much more than we understand a grace-based foundation. That's how we see the world: we think we have to earn our keep. But when Jesus cried out “It is finished!” on the cross, we can believe Him! We cannot save ourselves; we can only look to Jesus and trust that He is the way. And then, it changes us. We do not obey God so that He will forgive—we are forgiven, so we obey in joyful overflow.

↓ Why do you think so many people struggle with thinking we have to “earn” our way to God?

↑ What do Jesus's words on the cross reveal about His power and love?

## MEMORIZE

Write out John 19:30 on a piece of paper or note card, and place it next to your bed. Make it a goal to say it five times before you go to bed and five times when you wake up.

## PRAY

Confess ways you believe you have to save yourself. Ask God to help you look to Him alone as your Savior.

day 4

# JOHN 19:31-37

## DWELL

From the beginning of Jesus's ministry, He had been connected with the Passover lamb. In fact, John the Baptist said, "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (see John 1:29). In today's text, we see the fulfillment of that. Jesus's bones weren't broken, just like the bones of the Passover lambs were not to be broken (see Ex. 12:46; Num. 9:12; Ps. 34:20). And just as John the Baptist had said, Jesus's work on the cross offered the world rescue from sin.



What details did you notice about the crucifixion? Why are these important?



John was an eyewitness to these events. What do you think was going on in his mind as he watched?

## MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of John 19:30 on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

## PRAY

Talk to God about someone you know who needs to know the Lamb of God. Ask Him to give you an opportunity to talk to them.

day 5

# JOHN 19:38-42

## DWELL

Though Judas's betrayal and Peter's denial were potent examples of what it looks like to choose the approval of people over following God, there are some beautiful examples in Scripture of Christ followers who were willing to abandon their need for approval of people. Think about John, the writer of this Gospel, standing so near to Jesus as He was on the cross! And of course, it's wonderful to see the courage of Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea.



What does it reveal about Jesus when people are willing to abandon all to follow Him?

## MEMORIZE

Share John 19:30 with a friend or family member, and explain what it means. Then, invite them to randomly quiz you at some point today to see if you can remember the verse.

## PRAY

Ask God to help you see ways you care too much about the approval of others. Ask Him how you can follow Him more wholeheartedly.