

# The Cross

## Purpose

- To see God's love and to understand the true meaning of the cross.

## Introduction

- Ask your friend how he feels about the studies so far.
- What do you think about your sin?
- Have a deep talk and disciple his heart about how his sins hurt others.
- Today we are going to study about the cross of Jesus.
- What does the cross mean?
- Why did Jesus need to die on the cross?
- Prayer together

## Outline

### 1 Corinthian 1: 18

Today, when people look at the cross. What do they think?

These are two types of response from people.

- The cross is foolish; the bible said that he would perish.
- The cross is the power of God for those who are being saved.

The cross is the pain of Jesus. Let us look at the three ways the cross effect Jesus, three kinds of pain:

#### 1) Emotional pain

##### Matthew 26: 36-46

- How was Jesus feeling at this time?
- Jesus was sorrowful and troubled to the point of death.
- Have you ever been let down by a friend when you really needed him?

##### Matthew 26: 47-56

- Judas betrayed Jesus. Have you ever been betrayed?
- What did all the disciples do when Jesus was arrested?
- (They all deserted him and fled.)
- Have you ever felt lonely, like no one in the world cared about you?

## 2) Physical pain

### **Matthew 27:22-31**

- What happen here? Explain in detail.
- Jesus is full of love and his teachings changed lives, but he suffered so much even being punished like a criminal.
- Jesus was flogged severely by the soldiers.
- Crown of thorns was pressed on his head.
- Pulled off his cloth that is glued to his body of wounds.
- Lastly, he was crucified on the cross and filled with great pain.
- He was pierced on his ribs to prove that he really died.

## 3) Spiritual pain

### **Matthew 27:32-44**

- The written charge against Jesus.
- Crucified as a criminal and mocked by criminals.
- People challenged Jesus' authority.
- The high priests and teachers mocked and challenged Jesus to save himself.

### **Matthew 27:46** Why did Jesus cry out this statement?

- Jesus was separated with God for the first time because of sins.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** Jesus never sinned. Sin separates anyone from God.

\*\* Read the medical report: Jesus suffered severely. Why does an innocent man has to go through the emotional, physical, and spiritual pain and finally died on the cross.

\*\* Watch "The Cross" video with your friend: Explain well before viewing this video. Let him think of his sins and the pain of Jesus. Why did Jesus come to die on the cross?

## 4) Response to the cross

### **Romans 5: 6-8**

- The cross shows the greatest love of God to the world including you and me.
- God loves you even when you are sinner.
- God has chosen you, but Jesus has to die.
- Even if you are the only one on earth. God still loves you and will send Jesus to die for you alone.

### **1 Peter 2:21-25, Isaiah 53:4-6**

- Jesus died for you because he loves you.
- Jesus bore your sins so that you may be healed and reconcile with God.
- What shall you do and what shall your attitude be?
- Die to sins! Stop sinning absolutely and live a righteous life for God.

### **2 Corinthians 5: 14-15**

- Jesus has died for you because he loves you. What should you do?
- Love Jesus back. Like a wedding proposal. The man loves a woman and proposes to marry her, because she loves him too.
- What does it mean to love God?
- Die to sins. Die to your own desires.
- Live the rest of your life for God.

### **Acts 2: 36-38**

- What was their response? They were cut to the heart. They were convicted and hurt by their sins. Because they have sinned against God. People urgently asked Peter for what they should do from now.
- What did Peter tell them to do? Repent and be baptized.

### **Practical challenges:**

- Be very serious about changing your life and following Jesus. "...Live a life of love just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." [Eph 5:1-2]
- Make no more excuses.

### **Memory scripture:**

#### **1 Corinthians 1: 18**

**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**