

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

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INTRO

1. The **challenge** of the cross
2. The **culture** and the cross

A. A PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE CROSS

1. **Shadow** of the cross (Matthew 27:15-26)
2. **Scorn** of the cross (Mark 15:16-20)
3. **Scandal** of the cross (Luke 23:8-11)
4. **Sorrow** of the cross (Luke 24:13-21)

B. A PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE CROSS

1. **Salvation** provided through the cross (Luke 23:39-43)
2. **Sovereignty** manifested at the cross (Matthew 27:54)
3. **Substitution** demonstrated on the cross (1 Peter 2:24)
4. **Satisfaction** fulfilled through the cross (Colossians 2:13-15)

CONCLUSION

Table Talk

Overview

Having predicted His death many times, Jesus knew the hour had finally come. His purpose for coming to earth is about to be accomplished. After the Passover meal, Jesus went to a garden to pray for the strength He needed to endure the unfair trials and horrific death that was before Him. This session continues as we look at Jesus' resurrection next time.

1. What does Jesus' death mean to you?

2. Read Luke 23:32–34

- * The fact that Jesus has pronounced us “not guilty” does not automatically remove our feelings of guilt over our past. How can guilt and shame keep us from living the life that Jesus died to give us?

3. Read Luke 23:35–39

- * In what ways do you see people today trying to get Jesus to do what fits our desires rather than changing our desires to please Him?
- * Knowing that the worldview of God's kingdom and earthly kingdoms are very different, what limitations can earthly government systems present for a Christian's life?

4. Read Luke 23:39–49

- * In what ways do we still tend to rely on others to go to God on our behalf rather than accessing Him directly?

5. Read Hebrews 9:28 and Reflect

- * Examine your heart carefully. Have you adjusted your view of God in some areas of your life to please yourself, rather than adjusting your life to please God?