

Read this before you start the talk!

you'll thank me, I promise.

Week: for December 2nd, 2020

Scripture: John 19:28-42

Bottom Line: The Cross is the center of our lives, and Christ's finished work there is the grounding of our faith.

A personal note from Jackson: Okay, I went long again (classic). So here's my recommendation: Break the talk into chunks, and discuss as you go. The material is heavy, because, well, it's the crucifixion of Jesus. Pay attention to where students are leading the discussion, and don't worry about necessarily getting all the way through *if you're having important conversations*. The discussion guide below has time stamps for you to pause at and a couple questions for each chunk.

Read John 19:28-42. Read it slowly, and maybe twice.

Start the video, and pause at 3:45.

1. Exercise/Game: Open your bibles up together and see how many times in John 1-11 you can find hints of the Cross.
2. Why is it surprising that the cross is the central event in the Gospel of John? (Deuteronomy 21:23 has a hint.)

Go back to the video, watch until 8:35.

3. What does it mean to be a slave to sin? How does sin have a hold on you before the work of Jesus?
4. What does it mean to be "redeemed," to be freed from slavery to sin? What's the difference between freedom from sin and never sinning at all?

Watch the video through 10:56.

5. How does Jesus' death defeat Death? (Resurrection)
6. How does Jesus' victory over death become our own? Think back John 11: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Watch the rest of the video.

7. What does it mean that we deserve God's wrath? Is that fair?
8. Do you ever think about how God sees your sin? What does that feel like?
9. What does it mean for you, personally, that Jesus has offered himself as the propitiation for your sins? How does that change how God sees your sin?