

02 April

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Good Friday 2021

 Let's hear your story

1. Have you ever had to explain to a friend or family member why Jesus had to suffer and die in our place for our sin, as a substitute?
2. How did God prepare His people for Jesus' cross? (**See Leviticus 16; the day of atonement was an annual reminder to God's people.**)
3. How is Jesus the sacrifice and the scapegoat? (**As sacrifice, He pays your price for sin, and He takes your condemnation – see John 1:29.**)
4. What is Jesus' first saying on the cross in Luke 23:34? (**Father forgive them.**)

 Let's go deeper

5. What can we learn from Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> saying? (**His focus and ministry was towards others – see Luke 23:43 and John 19:26 – 27.**)
6. According to Jesus' 4<sup>th</sup> saying on the cross, how can we know that He was fully human? (**He said, "I thirst" – see John 19:28.**)
7. What happened when Jesus said My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me? (**Jesus substituted Himself in our place for our sins.**)
8. How can we be confident that Jesus' work for our salvation was complete and enough? (**Jesus said; "it is finished" – see John 19:30.**)

 Let's apply this

9. Many Christians though they are forgiven, still feel dirty, unclean and defiled. Jesus died and made Himself unclean so that you can live a clean life.

In **Zechariah 3:4 – 5**, we read that the angel said; I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestment.

**1 John 1:7 – 9**, tells us that the blood of Christ cleanses and purifies us from all sin and unrighteousness.

**Revelation 19:8**, says that when Jesus returns, He'll be like a groom and His church will be like a bride and it says that fine linen white and clean will be given to the bride to wear.

- **If God says you're clean and pure in Christ, then you're clean & pure**

SUMMARY:

- **Good Friday**

**How did God prepare His people for Jesus' cross?**

The day of atonement was a day of bloodshed. The high priest representing the people in the presence of God would bring forth two animals, a sacrifice and a scapegoat. The high priest is the mediator, intercessor and representative of the people of God, he would confess the sins of the people and then cut the throat, murdering the animal as a substitute. That was to show us what would happen to Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The second animal was a goat. On Passover, it was a lamb. The goat on day of atonement was called the scapegoat. What they would do is they would confess the sins of the people, but rather than slaughtering the animal, they would set the animal free and they would drive it out of town, into the wilderness. And they were taking that which is sinful and the people would literally chase the scapegoat out of town. All of this is to show when Jesus comes, He is the sacrifice for your sins and the scapegoat for your sins.

**What were the last seven sayings of Jesus on the cross?**

1. Jesus says in Luke 23:34; "Father forgive them..." He starts in prayer.
2. Jesus says in Luke 23:43; "Truly, I say to you, today you'll be with me in paradise." There are two men crucified next to Jesus and we see Jesus ministers to them.
3. Jesus says in John 19:26; "Woman, behold your son." Jesus minister to His mother
4. Jesus says in John 19:28; "I thirst." On the cross Jesus is fully human.
5. Jesus says in Matthew 27:46; "My God, my God. Why have you forsaken me?" At that moment, Jesus substituted Himself in our place for our sins.
6. Jesus says in John 19:30, "it is finished." All the work of salvation was done.
7. In Luke 23:46, Jesus cries out, "Father into your hands, I commit my spirit."

**There are nine things that the cross of Jesus does for those who belief in Him:**

1. Jesus died so you can live. (see Colossians 2:13 – 15).
2. Jesus paid the ultimate price for your debt to God. (see 1 Peter 1:18 – 19).
3. Jesus was cursed so you could be blessed. (see Deuteronomy 21 – 23 & Gal.3:13).
4. Jesus became unrighteous so you could become righteous. (2 Corinthians 5:21).
5. Jesus endured God's wrath so you could experience God's grace. (Romans 5:8).
6. Jesus was rejected by the Father so you could be reconciled to the Father - Rom.5
7. Jesus was shamed so that you could be unashamed. (see Hebrews 12:1 – 2).
8. Jesus died, made Himself unclean so that you could live a clean life. (1 John 1:7-9)
9. Jesus was hated, so you could be loved. (see John 3:16)