

Life Group Notes

Sunday 21st March 2021

Speaker: David Mosimabale

Title: Christ Crucified

Passage: Luke: 23:26-43

Jesus experienced all kinds of pain before giving up his final breath on the cross. He had physical pain from the rigors of travelling by foot for long distances, possible sleepless, physical beating at the home of the high priest. He suffered emotional pain from the stress in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22: 42 -44) as indicated by the sweat of blood. His disciples abandoned him, when he needed them the most.

Jesus encountered the following people on his way to be crucified:

1. **Simon of Cyrene.** A foreigner ordered by the Roman soldiers to carry Jesus cross due to Jesus physical exhaustion. Simon story is our story, a symbol for all of us who do not feel belong, who were in the margins. He followed after Jesus. Jesus was ahead and Simon was behind following. He followed the master. Are we following him? Or do we want him to follow us.

2. **Daughters of Jerusalem.** Daughters of Jerusalem wept for Jesus but Jesus told them to weep for themselves and their children. Even in moments of severe pain, Jesus wasn't concerned about himself, but more for the women. It is us who needed a savior and not the savior who needed to be crucified for our salvation. Our transgression nailed Jesus to the cross. Let's weep for that.
To weep over a dying Saviour is to lament the remedy; it were wiser to bewail the disease."
(Spurgeon)

3. **Two criminals.** Jesus' conversation with the criminal is the heart of the gospel. It is not by our works. Ephesians 2: 8 says ".....By grace are we saved, not by works.... Never lose sight of this truth, this is the good news!!! Our works are responses of gratitude to the incredible work Jesus did for our salvation, and even this response will be through the help of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was not a victim of circumstance. He was in control. In John 10:18 he said, no one takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself.
It is terrible to be forced to endure such torture, but to freely choose it out of love is remarkable – David Guzik.

4. **The crowd.** The crowd was mixed, with some crying and weeping, others were mocking Jesus, and some maybe indifferent. Let's be like the criminal who engaged Jesus. He asked for mercy. He was humble and saw his need for a savior.

Questions:

1. What was new/helpful/good reminder in David's preach?
2. Where this week have you endeavored to follow after Jesus?
3. Discuss some stumbling blocks to following Jesus after you're saved?
4. Are there areas of your life where following Jesus is hard? Pray for one another
5. How would you share the gospel with someone who has never heard it. Practice doing it with each other.