

Lifegroup Curriculum: Good Friday

Looking Back (15 mins)

Family Time

1. Vision:
 - Vision Statement: Explain the vision of your lifegroup. Invite someone in your lifegroup to share your vision piece next time.
2. Icebreaker Question:
 - What was one high and one low for you this past week?
3. Check-Ins:
 - Life updates from the previous week(s), prayer requests, praise reports.

Looking Up

Worship (15 mins)

- [Living Hope](#) - Phil Wickham
- [At the Cross \(Love Ran Red\)](#) - Chris Tomlin

Bible Study (30 mins)

Context: Luke 23:1-23

After being arrested the night before, Jesus is now on trial before Pontious Pilate. Pilate can find no basis to charge Jesus, so he sends Him to stand trial before Herod Antipas. Herod is eager to see Jesus and the miracles that accompany Him, but Jesus remains silent at Herod's questioning. Herod and his soldiers ridicule and mock Jesus before sending Him back to Pilate. Pilate calls on the chief priests, rulers, and the crowd of people in Jerusalem to announce that neither he or Herod can find any fault with Jesus. The crowd is displeased and shouts to Pilate, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" (v.21). The pressure of the crowd prevails and now Jesus is on the way to the cross.

Luke 23:32-43, NIV

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his

right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." 38 There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the Jews. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Discussion Questions

- Which character traits of God stand out to you? Why?
- What do we learn about people?
- The two criminals beside Jesus have radically different interactions with Him. The first man angrily demands that Jesus take action and change the situation. The second man recognizes who Jesus is and humbly asks Jesus to remember him. In our deep moments of trial, hurt, and pressure, which response do you feel you relate to, and why?

Personal Reflection (a few minutes on your own):

Take some time to allow Jesus to speak to you. You can close your eyes and imagine yourself with Jesus in a place you feel like you are weak or an area where you struggle to live God's way. Ask Him to meet you and "remember me..." What is Jesus' answer to you? How do you want to respond to His answer?

Looking Forward (15 mins)

Break into groups of 3-4:

- If comfortable, share what you feel the Lord spoke to you.
- Is there anything that you want to take action on after today's discussion?
- Take some time to share ways you need God's breakthrough, then pray for each other.