

SERIES TITLE: Death, Burial and Resurrection

SERMON TITLE: Death by the Cross

KEY TEXT (NKJV, ESV, NLT, NIV): Matthew 20:17- 20, Deuteronomy 21:23, John 19:18-19, Hebrews 9:28, Hebrews 10:10, Romans 6:6, Ephesians 2:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:18

Big Idea: At the fullness of time, Jesus willingly chose death on the cross—not merely to suffer physically, but to fulfill Scripture, redeem humanity from the curse of the law, and adopt us as children of God. His death was not accidental but intentional: a once-for-all sacrifice that broke the power of sin, lifted the burden of shame, equipped us to persevere through life's challenges, and destroyed the curse that once separated us from God. What was once an instrument of public humiliation has now become the power of salvation for all who believe.

In the first sermon of the series, Pastor Sammie reminds us that Jesus' intentional death on the cross fulfilled God's redemptive plan, transforming a symbol of shame into the power of salvation for all who believe.

Galatians 4:4-5 ESV

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

God Bless You! The Connection Groups Office



<u>Leader Heads-Up</u>: Is **everyone** in the meeting? Let us know **who's here** and **check in** on those **who aren't**!

A. Start Talking

During this Easter season, how can your Connection Group demonstrate the redeeming love of the cross through your Zonal Outreach, meeting real needs and pointing people to the hope we have in Jesus?

B. Start Thinking

- 1. Read Galatians 3:13 NKJV. Pastor Sammie illustrated how Jesus became a curse to redeem us. Where in your life have you seen the fruit of His redemptive work? Are there parts of your life where you still struggle to believe you're fully redeemed? What holds you back?
- 2. Read **Hebrews 12:2 and Psalm 34:5 NKJV**. What shame or guilt have you carried that Jesus has already taken away at the cross? What can you do each day to remind yourself that you're already free?
- 3. Read 1 Peter 4:1-4 NLT and 1 Corinthians 1:18 NKJV. What does it mean for you to "suffer with Christ" in today's world? What practical steps will you take to stay strong in holiness even when you face challenges?

C. Start Praying

Pray that you will walk daily in the victory, freedom, and identity secured through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

D. Start Doing

- **1. Live** as someone redeemed, no longer under the weight of the law, but adopted as a child of God through Christ's sacrifice.
- 2. Release every burden of shame, knowing Jesus endured public humiliation so you could walk in boldness and dignity.
- **3. Prepare** your heart to endure suffering for Christ by choosing God's will over personal comfort.
- **4. Walk** in spiritual authority, confident that the curse was broken by Christ's finished work on the cross.

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