

# **Bible Study Guide: Good Friday – The Love That Goes to the Cross**

 Source Transcript:

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## **Big Idea**

**The cross reveals the full depth of God’s love—a sacrificial, forgiving love that calls us to live transformed lives marked by surrender and forgiveness.**

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## **Theme**

**Good Friday is not just about suffering—it is about the completion of love, where Jesus fully embodies God’s will through sacrifice and forgiveness.**

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## **Core Scriptures**

### **Isaiah 53:4–6**

“He was pierced for our transgressions... by His wounds we are healed.”

### **Luke 23:34**

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

## **John 13:34**

“Love one another as I have loved you.”

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### **Introduction: The Depth of Good Friday**

Good Friday represents:

- The weight of sin
- The cost of redemption
- The depth of God’s love

### **Key Insight:**

“The cross is the ultimate picture of love in action.”

This moment forces us to ask:

- What does true love really look like?
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### **Main Point 1: Jesus Models Servant Love**

#### **Explanation**

Before the cross:

- Jesus washes the disciples’ feet
- Shares the Last Supper

- Establishes a new covenant

## **Spiritual Truth**

Love is:

- Humble
- Serving
- Selfless

“He shows them what love really looks like.”

## **Application**

- How can I serve others with humility?
- Do I love others sacrificially?

## **Sticky Quote:**

“True love kneels before it sacrifices.”

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## **Main Point 2: The Cross Was a Willing Sacrifice**

### **Explanation**

Jesus:

- Knows what is coming
- Still chooses the cross

In Gethsemane:

“Not my will, but Yours be done.”

## **Spiritual Truth**

Love requires:

- Surrender
- Obedience
- Trust in God’s will

“He counts the cost—and still chooses the cross.”

## **Application**

- Where is God calling me to surrender?
- Am I willing to choose His will over mine?

## **Sticky Quote:**

“Love says ‘yes’ to God—even when it costs everything.”

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## **Main Point 3: Jesus Loves Even When We Fail**

### **Explanation**

Despite:

- Judas’ betrayal
- Peter’s denial
- Disciples fleeing

Jesus still:

- Goes to the cross

## **Spiritual Truth**

God's love:

- Is not dependent on our faithfulness
- Remains constant

“He does it knowing they will fail Him.”

## **Application**

- Do I believe God still loves me in my failure?
- How does this change my view of grace?

## **Sticky Quote:**

“God's love doesn't stop when you fail.”

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## **Main Point 4: The Cross Reveals the Cost of Sin**

### **Explanation**

Jesus:

- Is falsely accused
- Beaten
- Crucified

### **Spiritual Truth**

Sin:

- Requires payment
- Brings death

“The penalty of sin is death.”

### **Application**

- Do I understand the seriousness of sin?
- How does the cross change my perspective?

### **Sticky Quote:**

“The cross shows how serious sin really is.”

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## **Main Point 5: Forgiveness Is the Completion of Love**

### **Explanation**

Jesus declares:

“Father, forgive them...”

### **Spiritual Insight**

True love:

- Forgives
- Releases
- Heals

“The completion of love is always forgiveness.”

## **Application**

- Who do I need to forgive?
- What am I holding onto?

## **Sticky Quote:**

“Forgiveness is where love is completed.”

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## **Main Point 6: Love Must Move Beyond Stages**

### **Illustration**

Love is like a rocket:

- It goes through stages
- But must reach completion

### **Spiritual Truth**

Incomplete love:

- Holds onto anger
- Holds onto pain

Complete love:

- Releases
- Forgives
- Frees

“Let love come to completion.”

### **Application**

- Where is my love incomplete?
- What is preventing full forgiveness?

### **Sticky Quote:**

“Don’t stop short of complete love.”

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## **Main Point 7: The Cross Leads to Freedom**

### **Explanation**

When we forgive:

- We release others
- We free ourselves

### **Spiritual Truth**

Forgiveness:

- Breaks chains
- Restores peace

“Forgiveness brings freedom.”

### **Application**

- What is keeping me bound?

- How can forgiveness set me free?

**Sticky Quote:**

“Forgiveness unlocks your freedom.”

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**Main Point 8: The Cross Leads to New Life**

**Explanation**

The cross is not the end:

- It leads to resurrection

**Spiritual Truth**

Pain:

- Leads to growth
- Leads to life

“The cross always leads to life.”

**Application**

- Where is God bringing life from pain?
- How can I trust Him in suffering?

**Sticky Quote:**

“Your pain is not the end—life is coming.”

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## **Main Point 9: We Are Called to Carry the Cross**

### **Explanation**

Jesus calls us to:

- Take up our cross
- Follow Him

### **Spiritual Truth**

Following Jesus means:

- Living sacrificially
- Loving deeply
- Forgiving completely

“It’s time to pick up your cross.”

### **Application**

- What does carrying my cross look like?
- How can I follow Jesus more fully?

### **Sticky Quote:**

“To follow Jesus is to carry the cross.”

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## **Main Point 10: The Cross Calls Us to Action**

### **Explanation**

Jesus:

- Speaks from the cross
- Engages others

## **Spiritual Truth**

The cross:

- Demands response
- Calls us to share

“We must speak this love to the world.”

## **Application**

- How can I share God’s love?
- Who needs to hear this message?

## **Sticky Quote:**

“The cross calls you to live and speak love.”

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## **Discussion Questions**

1. What does the cross reveal about God’s love?
2. Why is forgiveness so difficult?
3. Where is your love incomplete?
4. How has the cross changed your life?
5. What does it mean to carry your cross daily?

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## **Practical Application Steps**

### **1. Reflect on the Cross**

- Spend time meditating on Jesus' sacrifice

### **2. Practice Forgiveness**

- Release someone you've been holding onto

### **3. Surrender to God's Will**

- Pray "Thy will be done" daily

### **4. Love Sacrificially**

- Serve others intentionally

### **5. Share the Message**

- Tell someone about God's love

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## **Closing Prayer**

Father,  
Thank You for the cross  
and the love it represents.

Teach us to forgive,  
to surrender,  
and to love as You have loved us.

Help us to carry our cross  
and follow You faithfully.

Transform our hearts  
so that we may reflect Your love to others.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

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## **Final Takeaway**

**The cross is where love reaches its fullest expression—  
and where our lives are forever changed.**