

# **BIBLE STUDY GUIDE: “IT IS FINISHED – LIVING THROUGH THE CROSS”**

*(John 19:30 – Good Friday)*

Source:

---

## **BIG IDEA**

The cross is not just an event—it is the lens through which believers are called to live, shaping our identity, our relationships, and our daily walk in Christ.

---

## **THEME**

**Freedom, Forgiveness, and New Life Through the Cross**

---

## **CONTEXT (Historical + Biblical Setting)**







## 4

- Found in **John 19:30**, the moment Jesus declares: “*It is finished.*”
  - This occurs during the crucifixion at **Golgotha**.
  - The phrase “It is finished” (Greek: *tetelestai*) means:
    - Paid in full
    - Completed
    - Accomplished
  - The cross represents:
    - The fulfillment of God’s redemptive plan
    - The defeat of sin and death
    - The opening of new life for believers
- 

## **MAIN POINT 1: THE CROSS WAS THE PURPOSE FROM THE BEGINNING**

### **Key Scripture**

- John 19:30 – “*It is finished.*”
- Luke 19:10 – “*The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*”

### **Teaching Insight**

- Jesus’ death was not accidental—it was intentional.
- The cross was always the mission:
  - From incarnation → to crucifixion

- His final words declare:
  - The work of salvation is complete

## **Application**

- Do you understand the cross as central to your faith?
- How does knowing “it is finished” change how you live?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“The cross wasn’t a tragedy—it was the plan.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 2: THE CROSS DEALS WITH SIN, GUILT, AND SHAME**

### **Key Scripture**

- Romans 8:1 – *“There is now no condemnation...”*
- Colossians 2:14 – *“Having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness...”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- The cross:
  - Cancels sin
  - Breaks guilt
  - Removes shame
- Many believers still live bound by what Jesus already paid for.

- Freedom is available—but must be **received and lived out**.

## **Application**

- What guilt or shame are you still carrying?
- Have you truly accepted Christ's finished work?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“Jesus finished what you’re still trying to fix.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 3: THE CROSS CALLS US TO FORGIVE**

### **Key Scripture**

- Luke 23:34 – *“Father, forgive them...”*
- Matthew 5:44 – *“Love your enemies and pray for them.”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- Jesus models forgiveness at His most painful moment.
- Forgiveness is not optional—it is foundational.
- The cross demands we:
  - Release bitterness
  - Extend grace
  - Love beyond offense

## **Application**

- Who do you need to forgive today?
- What would it look like to forgive like Jesus?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“You can’t embrace the cross while holding onto bitterness.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 4: THE CROSS REDEFINES HOW WE LIVE DAILY**

### **Key Scripture**

- Luke 9:23 – *“Take up your cross daily...”*
- Galatians 2:20 – *“I have been crucified with Christ...”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- The cross is not just something we believe—it’s how we live.
- Living “through the cross” means:
  - Choosing humility
  - Walking in love
  - Surrendering self
- Every decision becomes filtered through Christ.

## **Application**

- Are your daily choices shaped by the cross?
- What needs to change in how you live?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“The cross isn’t just where Jesus died—it’s how we live.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 5: THE CROSS TRANSFORMS HOW WE SEE EVERYTHING**

### **Key Scripture**

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 – *“If anyone is in Christ...”*
- Romans 12:2 – *“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- The cross becomes a lens for:
  - Relationships
  - Pain
  - Conflict
  - Purpose
- It changes how we:
  - Respond
  - Speak
  - Love
- It calls us to ask:

- “What would Jesus do here?”

## **Application**

- What situation in your life needs to be viewed through the cross?
- How would your response change if filtered through Christ?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“When you see through the cross, everything looks different.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 6: THE CROSS LEADS US DEEPER INTO CHRIST**

### **Key Scripture**

- Philippians 3:10 – *“I want to know Christ... in his sufferings.”*
- Ephesians 3:18–19 – *“To grasp how wide and long... is the love of Christ.”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- The cross invites us deeper into:
  - Love
  - Grace
  - Sacrifice

- It moves us beyond surface-level faith into:
  - Transformation
  - Intimacy with Christ

## **Application**

- Are you going deeper in your relationship with Jesus?
- What is God calling you to surrender?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“The cross doesn’t keep you shallow—it pulls you deeper.”**

---

## **MAIN POINT 7: THE CROSS BRINGS TRUE LIFE**

### **Key Scripture**

- John 10:10 – *“I have come that they may have life...”*
- John 19:30 – *“It is finished.”*

### **Teaching Insight**

- The cross:
  - Doesn’t end life—it begins it
- True life is:
  - Free from bondage
  - Full of purpose
  - Rooted in Christ

- Even in suffering:
  - The cross shines hope

## **Application**

- Are you living in the fullness of life Jesus offers?
- What is holding you back from that life?

## **Sticky Quote**

**“The cross doesn’t take life—it gives it.”**

---

## **GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What does “It is finished” mean personally to you?
  2. What guilt or shame do you still struggle with?
  3. Who do you need to forgive right now?
  4. How can you live more intentionally through the cross?
  5. What area of your life needs a new perspective?
- 

## **PRACTICAL CHALLENGE**

- Start your day asking: *“How do I live this through the cross today?”*
- Forgive someone you’ve been holding onto.
- Replace one negative thought with a truth from the cross.

---

## **FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT**

The cross is not just where Jesus died—  
It is where your new life begins.

---

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Father,

Thank You for the cross.

Thank You that it is finished—that our sin is paid for and  
our freedom secured.

Help us live every moment through the lens of Your  
sacrifice.

Teach us to forgive, to love deeply, and to walk in new  
life.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

---