

# THE WAY | GENEROSITY

## SERMON-BASED QUESTIONS

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

### MY STORY

1. What has been the best gift you have ever received? What made it so great?
2. How much do you value your salvation? How does its value show in the way you live day-to-day?

### IN REVIEW

From last week's "Taking it Home" section, how did generosity show up in your week? Each day, did you write down things you were grateful for? How did this affect you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. As Pastor John mentioned in his sermon, the year 2020 revealed and uncovered a lot—especially in responses as Christians. The pressure of the year exposed a lot, big things and small things. What did 2020 reveal and uncover about your relationship with Jesus?
2. In what ways do you think people take Jesus and salvation for granted? Explain.
3. Read the scriptures below and answer the following questions:  
(Romans 3:23, 5:12, 6:23a, 2 Corinthians 5:12, 2 Thessalonians 1:9)
  - a. What do these verses have in common? How do these verses make you feel?
  - b. What do we learn about sin in these verses?
  - c. Do we fully understand the ugliness of sin and the effect it has on us? Why or why not?
4. Read Romans 6:23 and John 3:16, then answer the following questions:
  - a. From these 2 verses alone, describe God's love and character.

b. Do you believe we understand the depth, pain, and reality of John 3:16? Explain.

c. When did you begin to see God as saving you and not condemning you?

**CALL TO ACTION | WRITE A LETTER:** As you spend time alone this week, write an intentional letter to Jesus acknowledging and appreciating His love, sacrifice, and obedience through the Cross. Focus on gratitude in your letter and be aware how this gratitude transforms your heart.

5. Take a minute to read the small text below, then read Mark 15:33-34 and answer this question: Knowing all Jesus did for you, what is your response to Him? Explain.

“Jesus’s pain and suffering, between the flogging and crucifixion, was immense and is often misunderstood. During a flogging, a victim was tied to a post, leaving his back entirely exposed. The Romans used a whip, called a *flagrum* or *flagellum* which consisted of small pieces of bone and metal attached to a number of leather strands. It was said that often, during a flogging, after the muscles had been torn by the metal and bones in the *flagellum*, intestines and organs could be exposed and even fall out. The American Medical Association says that during crucifixion, you do not die of blood loss, but of asphyxiation. As the body hangs from the cross, in that position, the chest muscles constrict and it doesn’t allow oxygen to get to the lungs. So, the victim would have to pull from the arms, or push from the feet to come up for air. At some point, due to fatigue or pain, when the person could no longer push themselves up for air, they would eventually suffocate. And yet, as awful as the physical pain was, Jesus only cried out at one point; He cried out when the weight of our sin was put on Him.”

6. Read Colossians 1:21-22 and answer the following questions:

a. How do you view your reconciliation in light of the study and conversation from above?

**CALL TO ACTION | MAKE A MOVE:** Read James 1:22. In light of this verse, and everything from this study, what is one thing (or more) that you can “do” differently in response?

## TAKING IT HOME

7. In one or two sentences, how are you going to practically put the “Call To Action” sections from above into practice this week?

**CALL TO ACTION | WRITE A LETTER:**

**CALL TO ACTION | MAKE A MOVE:**