



## DAY 2: The Reality of the Cross

### KNOW IT!

**Isaiah 53:5 (Context: Isaiah 53:1-11)**

**"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."**

**1 Peter 2:24 (Context: 1 Peter 1:21-25)**

**(Note: Remember, Peter was an eyewitness to the crucifixion.)**

**"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.  
By his wounds you have been healed."**

**Jesus' crucifixion was not symbolic—it was a real, agonizing death on a Roman cross. He suffered real torture, real pain, and real separation from the Father so that we could be redeemed. His sacrifice was the ultimate act of love. The Bible reminds us that "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). It was love—God's enduring, patient, forgiving, eternal love—that drove Jesus to the cross for each of us. Recognizing the depth of His love and the weight of Jesus' suffering should deepen our love and appreciation for His gift of salvation, as well as our gratitude and commitment to Him.**

### LIVE IT! SHARE IT!

- **How should the knowledge and understanding of Jesus' real suffering change the way you view sin and salvation?**
- **Take a moment today to explain the significance of the cross to someone who may not fully understand it.**

*reasonsforhope\**

