

CTS
NIGHTS

SERVANT LEADERSHIP:
WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT LEADERSHIP
Spring 2026





Welcome Back to
Servant Leadership!



A group of men in ancient attire walking through a field. In the center, a man with long hair and a beard, wearing a white tunic and a purple robe, is walking. He is surrounded by other men in similar clothing. The background shows a hazy landscape with mountains.

10 Leadership Lessons for Servant Leaders from Jesus During Passion Week

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY 2013

THE
GREATEST
WEEK IN HISTORY

Luke's Account of the Passion Week

 **LifeWay**
Biblical Solutions for Life



Lesson #1

Embrace YOUR Race and Unique
Place in the Work of the Kingdom

Strategic Direction and
Determination



³¹ And taking the twelve, he said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³² For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³ And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.”

Luke 18:31-33

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Hebrews 12:1-3



Lesson #2
Stay Determined to Stay on
Mission

Strategic Steps Before
Passion Week



⁵¹ When the days drew near for him to be taken up, *he set his face* to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. ⁵³ But the people did not receive him, because *his face was set toward* Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51-53

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Jesus was doggedly determined to
fulfill His mission.



10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

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Lesson #3

Model Humility in All You Are and Do

Sunday of Passion Week:
The Triumphal Entry



The Triumphal Entry

³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹ And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

Luke 19:36-40

The Triumphal Entry

Jesus choose humility willingly and intentionally.

For Christ-centered servant leaders, choosing
humility is key.

Philippians 2:5-11

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.” C. S. Lewis







Lesson #4
Stay Close, Stay Cleansed

Monday of Passion Week:
The Cleansing of the Temple
(Luke 19:45-46)





**Temple
Mount**

Mount of Olives

Bethphage

Bethany

Path to
Bethany from
Jerusalem



The Cleansing of the Temple

⁴⁵ And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, ⁴⁶ saying to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.”

Luke 19:45-46

The Cleansing of the Temple

Jesus was consumed with calling people to experience intimacy with the Father, which he made perpetually possible by His cleansing work on the cross.

The cross became the means by which we have access into the most holy place of God's presence.



A model of the temple at the Holyland Hotel, Jerusalem

The Moslem
Dome of the Rock
sits on the Temple
Mount where
Herod's Temple
once stood.





Lesson #5

Servant Leaders Live Under Authority and with Authority

Tuesday and Wednesday:
Jesus Authority Challenged
and Demonstrated (Luke 20-21)



Authority

One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up ² and said to him, “Tell us by what authority you do these things, or who it is that gave you this authority.”

Luke 20:1-2

Servant leaders live under the Lordship of Jesus.

His Lordship invites us into unlimited love and life continually unleashed by our faith and obedience.

“Yes, Lord!” is the heart’s cry of the servant leader.



Lesson #6

Commemorating and Communicating the Major Messages in YOUR Salvation Story

Thursday: Passover as The
Lord's "Last" Supper (Luke 22:14-22)



The Passover Meal

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.”

Luke 22:7-8

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Major Messages of Passover

- We have been delivered from the bitterness of bondage.
- We have been sanctified by the blood of the Lamb.
- We have been redeemed by the suddenness and sweetness of salvation.
- We have experienced the fullness of forgiveness that fills our praise



The Passover Meal

¹⁴ And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

Luke 22:14-18

The Passover Meal/The Lord's Supper

¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹ But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²² For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" ²³ And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

The Passover Meal/The Lord's Supper

Major Messages of the Lord's Supper

Jesus is willing to be broken so that we can be made whole.

Jesus is willing to pour out his blood, so that we can be filled with his love.


Let's Take a Break

What are the major messages of your life story?

What are the major moments of your testimony?

B.C. Before Christ
M.D. Moment of Decision
L.A.D. Life as a Disciple



A man in a dark t-shirt and glasses is pointing upwards with his right hand on a stage. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman with blonde hair and a man in a white shirt. The scene is lit with stage lights, creating a dramatic atmosphere.

The Belonging Co

BECAUSE OF CHRIST

Feat. Henry Seeley

Lesson #7

Surrender Your Will,
Again and Again and Again

Thursday Night: The Struggle in the
Garden and the Sweet Surrender of the
Servant and Savior (Luke 22:41-42)



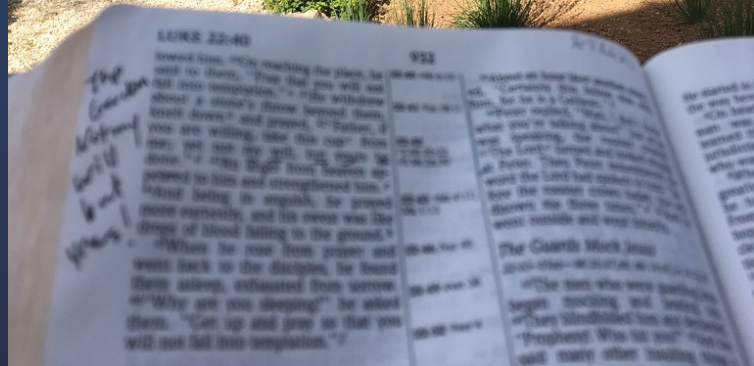
The Passover Meal

³⁹ And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ And when he came to the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” ⁴¹ And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.” ⁴³ And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Luke 22:39-44











Lesson #8

See the Cross Clearly, His and Yours,
For Current and Future Clarity

Friday: The Worst Good Day of
History (Luke 23:1-49)



Three Crosses, Two Criminals, and The Christ Luke 23:32-43

³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

Three Crosses, Two Criminals, and The Christ

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³ And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”



Three Crosses, Two Criminals and The Christ

These two criminals remind us the cross was not just an event in history; it is a timeless invitation to all people.

To receive Jesus's invitation is to ensure your future is secure in His sovereign and personal care.





**The Event of
Eternity:
The Cross of
Jesus Christ**



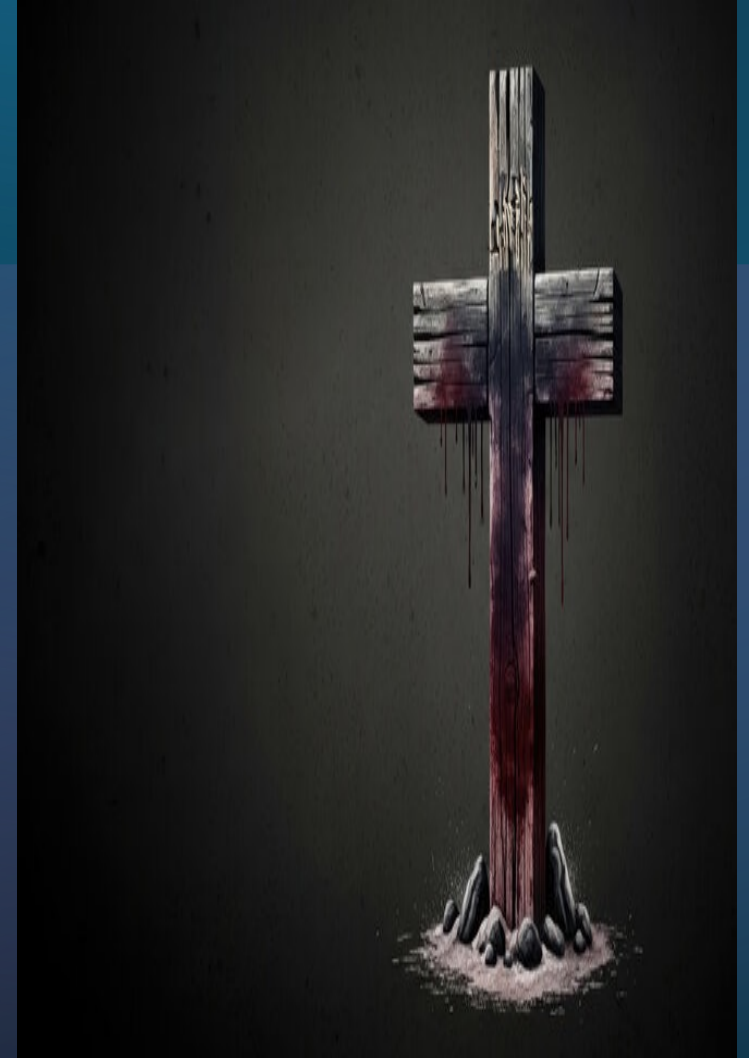
Lesson #9

As You Invest Yourself in Your Life Work, Rest in the Reality of His Finished Work

Saturday: Resting in the Reality
of His Finished Work(Luke 23:56)

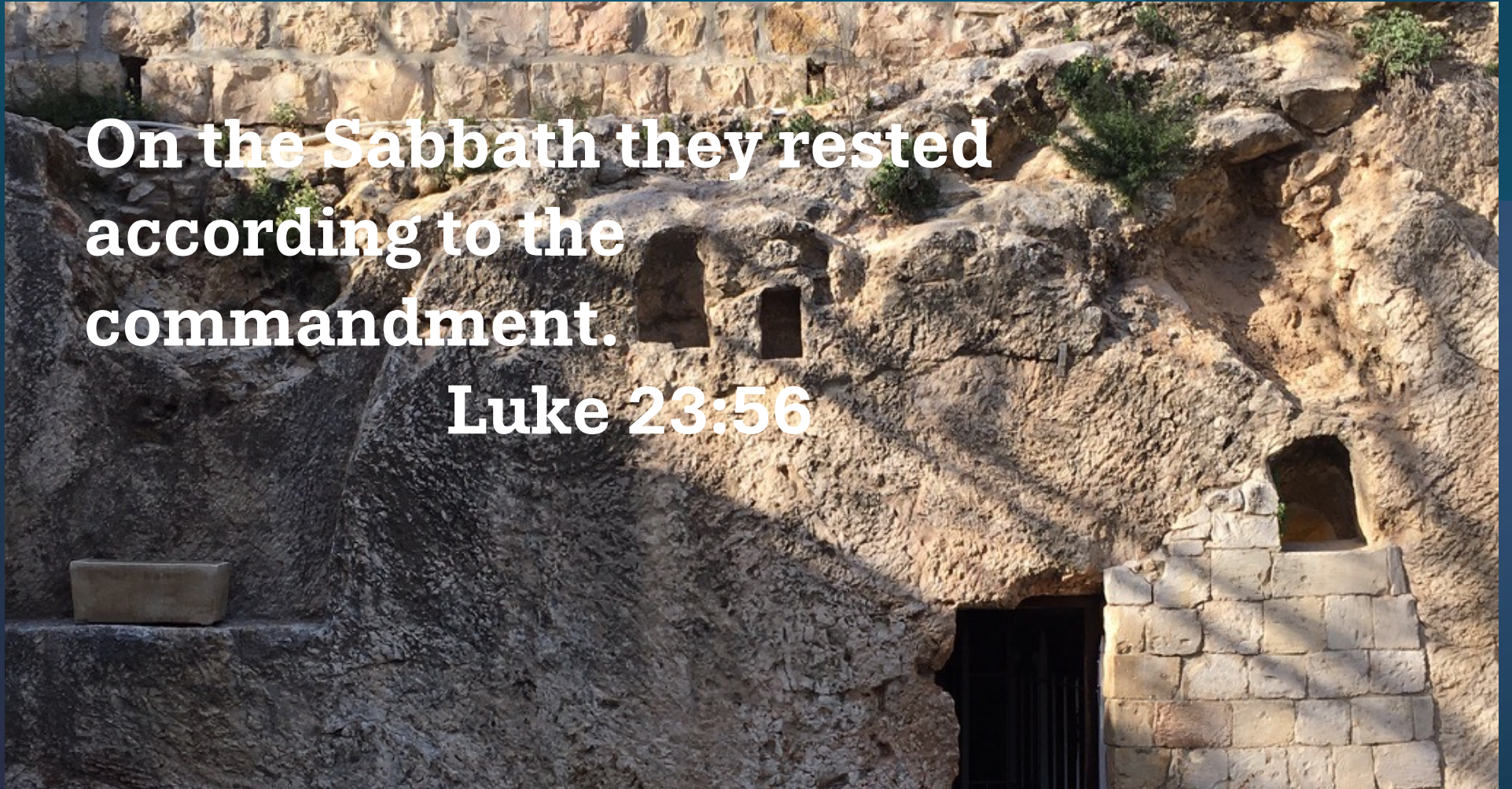


The Empty Cross and The Finished Work of Christ



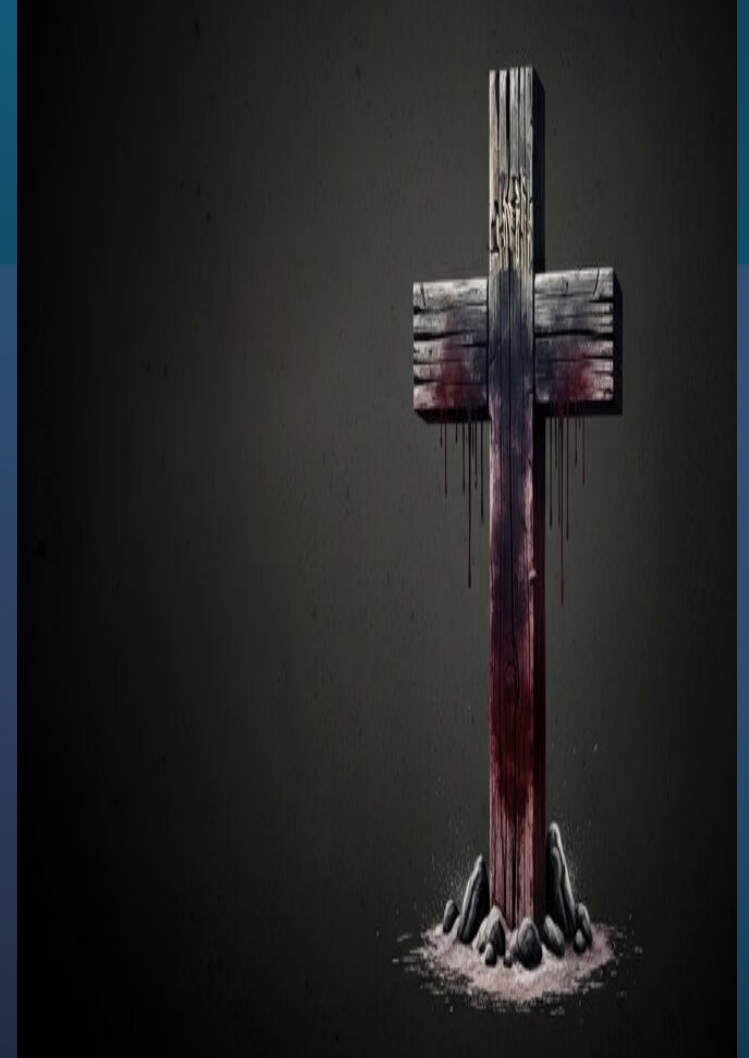
**On the Sabbath they rested
according to the
commandment.**

Luke 23:56



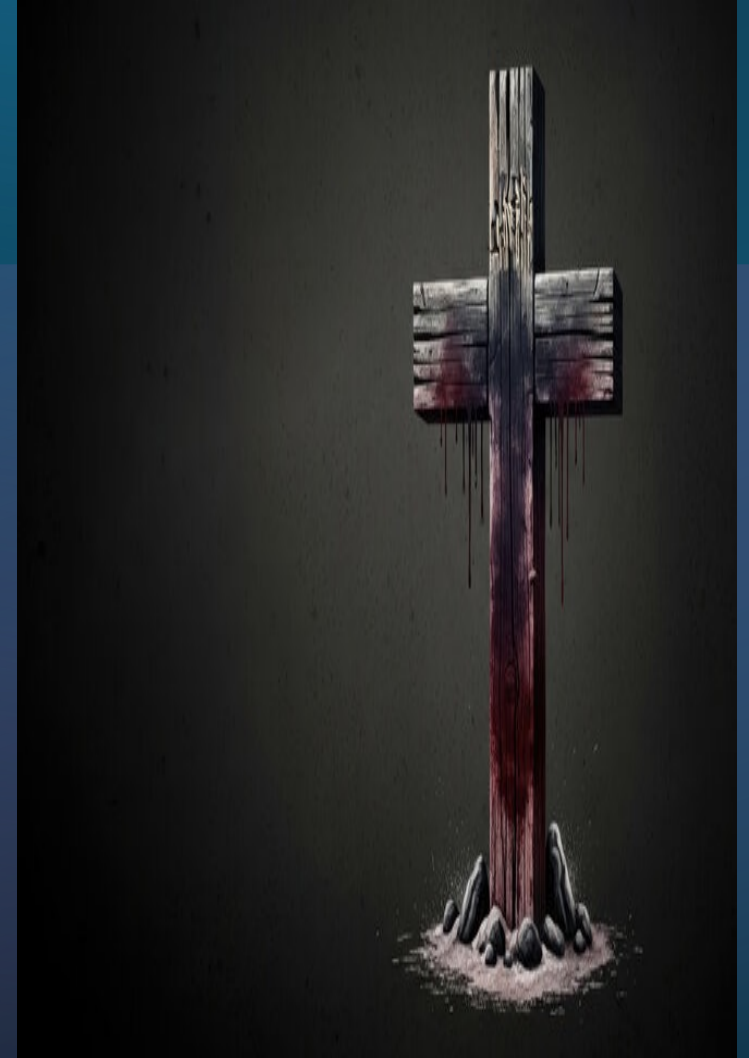
**The Empty Cross
and
The Finished Work of
Christ**

**Sacrifice has been
made—Jesus has done
what had to be done.**



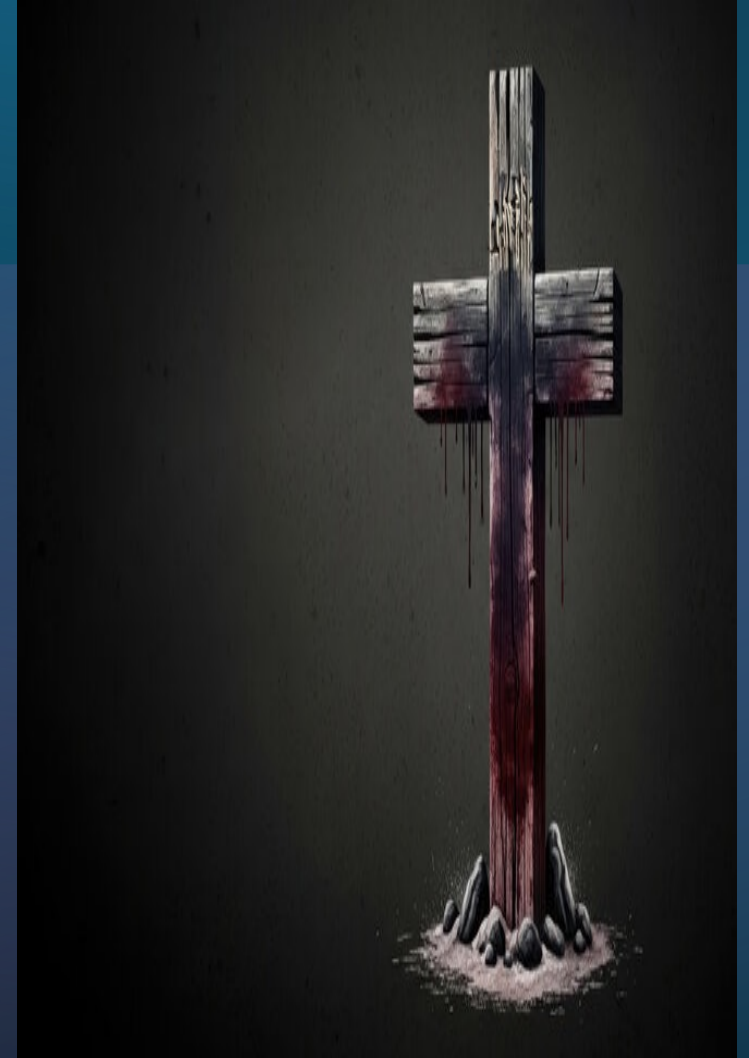
The Empty Cross and The Finished Work of Christ

**Sins can be forgiven—
Jesus can do what needs
to be done.**



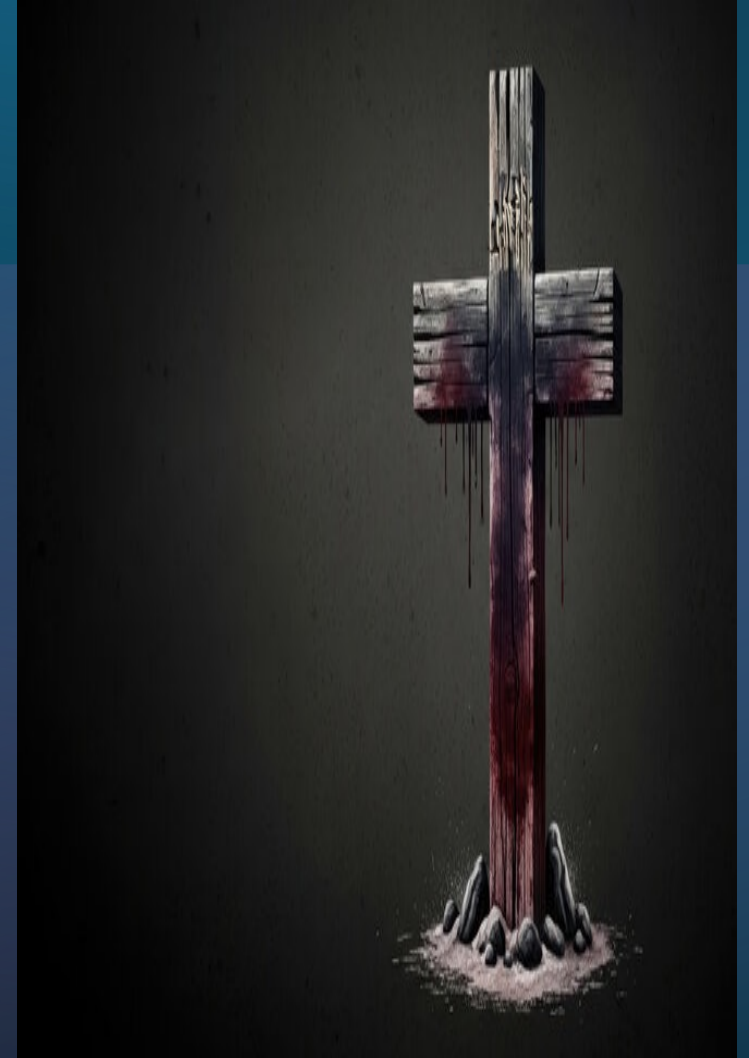
The Empty Cross and The Finished Work of Christ

**You don't have to fear the
future—Jesus will do
what He has promised.**



The Empty Cross and The Finished Work of Christ

**As you invest yourself in
your life work, rest in the
reality of His finished
work on your behalf.**



There was very little time to process the events of the week. They blurred together like a terrible tapestry that was a horrible reality. The details were still sketchy, but it was clear a horrible tragedy had occurred. The One in whom the disciples had placed their hopes was now dead. . . . Death brought such disturbing distance. . . . Some have called this day Silent Saturday. It was a day when God seemed silent.

Jesus followers were living in a unique place between future promise and present fulfillment, between faith and sight. This was the moment when the cross was empty, but the grave was filled. They were living in the angst of unresolved promise. Everyone who follows Jesus will experience those “in between” moments, where we live in the silent place between the promise and the realization. It is actually a place of perceived silence. God has spoken and now is in the process of bringing about what He promised. In truth, these moments serve a purpose in the process of fulfillment . . .

While it may be a place of relative silence, God provided an opportunity for the disciples to rest. The word rest often is foreign to us. It seems so, well, unproductive. But, they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment. . . . How difficult it must have been to rest on that day. Finally, after the frantic events of Friday, they were alone with their thoughts. They must have been exhausted by the events of the week. I wonder if they thought of Jesus' words, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). What about now? How could they rest in Him now? It must have been a difficult day for them.

Though they did not realize it then, the blood-stained, empty cross bore testimony that there was a new reality in which to rest.

On the seventh day of the first week in history, God, having completed the work of creation, rested. Now, on the seventh day of the greatest week in history, Jesus having completed the work of redemption, rested. This will be the most unique day of our journey because the One we've been following, and will follow again, is silent in His rest. On this day, reflect on and rest in the silent testimony of an empty cross.

From *The Greatest Week in History* by Rob Futral

When God seems silent, rest in the promises from the moments when He has spoken clearly.

When your life seems empty, remember that the empty cross points to how Jesus sacrificial death fills our life with purpose and possibility.



Lesson #10

Anchor Your Hope and Entrust Your
Future in the One Who Overcomes
Death

Sunday: The Greatest Day in History!
(Luke 24)



But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” ⁸ And they remembered his words . . .





"HE IS NOT HERE-
FOR HE IS RISEN"



**The empty tomb of Easter
fills our hearts with hope and has the power to
change everything for anyone and everyone!**

**The Women (Luke 24:1-11)
Easter Turned Devastation into Celebration**

**Simon Peter (Luke 24:12, 34)
Easter Turned Deep Disappointment into
Living Hope**

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-5

**The empty tomb of Easter
fills our hearts with hope and has the power to
change everything for anyone and everyone!**

**The Emmaus Road Disciples (Luke 24:13-35)
Easter Turned Confusion into Conviction**

**The Disciples (Luke 24:36-37)
Easter Turned Unbelief into Unshakable
Commitment**

**The empty tomb of Easter
fills our hearts with hope and has the power to
change everything for anyone and everyone!**

**Devoted Disciples—Then and Now
Easter Turned Passive Observers into
Powerful Participants**

**The empty tomb of Easter
fills our hearts with hope and has the power to
change everything for anyone and everyone!**

**You are witnesses of these things. And look, I
am sending you what My Father promised.**

Luke 24:48-49

We are not only recipients of
the resurrection message, we
are invited to be active
participants in the
resurrection mission.



GATE
WAY

WHO ELSE

Gateway Worship feat. Abbie Gamboa

