



THE GOSPEL OF
MARK

WEEK 17

MAY 1-3, 2015

AT THE CROSS

FRIDAY

MAY 1, 2015

READ MARK 15:21-32 (ESV)

If you watch the news, recently more and more images are shown of Christians being killed by ISIS because they will not deny Christ. These men, women and children give their lives for the sake of the Gospel. They see their sufferings as temporary and their relationship to Christ as eternal. They suffer well.

In the Gospels, we are given the accounts of Jesus' sufferings. We see Christ in the moments before his death. Read each Gospel account of Jesus and his crucifixion (Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 19).

Ask yourself these questions: How did Jesus suffer? Who did he talk to in these moments? What does my life look like during times of suffering?

SATURDAY

MAY 2, 2015

READ MARK 15:33-39 (ESV)

In verses 37 and 38, Christ breathes his last breath and the temple veil is torn. In these two monumental events, the atoning work of Christ is fully on display. We see that only by Christ's death are we granted access to the Father. We see the cost of our sin and rebellion.

Take some time today to think about how you have rebelled from God and his continued faithfulness in your life. Think about your specific sin struggles and remember what Romans 6:14 (ESV) says: "For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace".

Remember that through Christ's work on the cross, you are no longer a slave to sin, but an instrument for righteousness.

SUNDAY

MAY 3, 2015

Use this writing from *Valley of Vision* (76) as you prepare for worship today:

LOVE LUSTRES AT CALVARY

MY FATHER,

Enlarge my heart, warm my affections,

open my lips,

*supply words that proclaim 'Love lustres
at Calvary.'*

*There grace removes my burdens and heaps them
on thy Son,*

made a transgressor, a curse, and sin for me;

*There the sword of thy justice smote the man,
thy fellow;*

*There thy infinite attributes were magnified,
and infinite atonement was made;*

There infinite punishment was due,

and infinite punishment was endured.

Christ was all anguish that I might be all joy,

cast off that I might be brought in,

trodden down as an enemy

that I might be welcomed as a friend,

surrendered to hell's worst

that I might attain heaven's best,

stripped that I might be clothed,

wounded that I might be healed,

athirst that I might drink,

tormented that I might be comforted,

made a shame that I might inherit glory,

entered darkness that I might have eternal light.

*My Saviour wept that all tears might be wiped
from my eyes,*

groaned that I might have endless song,

endured all pain that I might have unfading health,

bore a thorny crown that I might have

a glory-diadem,

bowed his head that I might uplift mine,

*experienced reproach that I might receive
welcome,*

*closed his eyes in death that I might gaze
on unclouded brightness,*

expired that I might for ever live.

*O Father, who spared not thine only Son that thou
mightest spare me,*

*All this transfer thy love designed and
accomplished;*

Help me to adore thee by lips and life.

*O that my every breath might be ecstatic praise,
my every step buoyant with delight, as I see my
enemies crushed,*

Satan baffled, defeated, destroyed,

*sin buried in the ocean of reconciling blood,
hell's gates closed, heaven's portal open.*

Go forth, O conquering God, and show me

the cross, mighty to subdue, comfort and save.

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