

The Cross| Matthew 11:28-30

Small Group Notes

Since we can't work our way to Heaven, God in His love, grace and mercy worked His way to us. Entering into Holy week, we have the opportunity to reflect on what Jesus did on *The Cross* for all of us. We can remember God loves us, cares for us, and has not forgotten us! In Matthew 11:28, Jesus says to come to Him if you are weary and burdened and He will give you rest. Through *The Cross*, Jesus became Hosanna: our Savior and Rescuer.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What do you picture when you think about Palm Sunday?
- When you hear the words *The Cross*, what comes to your mind?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your sermon notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything said that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

WATCH THE VIDEO <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6ikPRY8pCQ&feature=youtu.be>

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What steps are you taking to rest in God?
2. We stated earlier we can't work our way to Heaven. God in His love, grace and mercy worked His way to us. We also said God loves us, cares for us, and has not forgotten us.
 - How did God work His way to you?
 - What are some ways we can know God has not forgotten us?
3. **Read John 16:31-33.** In this passage, Jesus is speaking to the disciples assuring them they could have peace in uncertain times. In just a few more chapters, the disciples would leave Him, Jesus would be betrayed, and then He would be sentenced to death on the cross. In all of the tough times that lay ahead of them, Jesus told the disciples they could still have peace through it all!
 - What do you think the disciples were thinking and feeling when Jesus was telling them this?
 - In this weekend's message Chad said, "*In Him we have ultimate rest for our souls.*" What does that mean to you?
4. This weekend we learned the acrostic **REST**: **R**emember God's faithfulness, **E**xpress how you feel to God, **S**hare with someone else, and **T**rust in Him. Which letter meant the most to you? Why?

5. Discuss each part of this encouraging statement: *"In Jesus, there is freedom from your past, power for your present, and hope for your future."*
 - How can you have freedom from your past?
 - How do you have power for your present?
 - What does hope for your future look like?
6. Before closing with a time of prayer, close your discussion by reading **Psalm 23:1-6** together.

PRAYER

God: Thank You for Your gift of *The Cross*. Jesus loved us enough to come to Earth and experience the worst pain imaginable so I could be forgiven and experience peace that only comes from You. Help us to understand we can trust You today. We can turn our Worry into Worship. We receive Your peace. In Jesus name, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us for our online for our Good Friday and Communion Service at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 10 at <http://live.sv.cc>
- Visit <http://Easter.sv.cc> to learn more about all of our online Easter services next weekend. Don't forget to invite your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to join you online for a service.
- Parents: Check out helpful resources for you as you navigate these uncertain times with your child. <http://parents.sv.cc>