

Next Steps: The final words Jesus speaks from the cross are about real pain and raw emotions. There are times in all of our lives when we experience a sense of abandonment that cuts to the core of our being. Spend some time this week looking at the following passages of Scripture. What do they say about the pain and suffering of Jesus? How was this pain part of God's plan?

Matthew 27:35-49

Why was Jesus feeling like God had forsaken him?

2 Corinthians 5:21

What does this verse teach you about the pain Jesus was feeling? How did Jesus' suffering benefit you?

Psalm 22

Jesus quotes Psalm 22:1 from the cross. This Psalm gives us permission to cry out to God in our pain & suffering. But we don't want to camp out in the first half of Psalm 22 without remembering the second half. What changes starting in Psalm 22:19?

Romans 3:21-26

How did Jesus pay the penalty for our sin? What do we need to receive the benefit of Jesus' work on our behalf?

Romans 8:18-39

What problem or suffering are you experiencing? Have you cried out to your Heavenly Father about this? Have you been real and raw? Don't forget God can use pain to accomplish His plan! What are the promises you see in this passage from Romans?

Next Week: As we continue our Last Words Of Jesus series, we come to this passage in John 19:28-37. This short phrase has much to teach us about how small things can be very significant. Please join us as we will also be sharing at the Communion table together.