

## God Time – Jesus Our Savior

These scriptures are selected to help you gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is. They are intentionally designed for you to engage in your time alone with God. You will find them complementary to the teachings on the weekend (gatherings) and to the LIFE Group materials.

Some tips:

*Use a Bible that is easy to read. The ESV or The NLT are both good translations.*

*Use a prayer journal. After you read the passages jot down what “jumped out” at you while reading. Then take a few minutes to write a prayer response to what you have read.*

*There are only five days of reading provided so if you miss a day you have time to catch up. Do not get legalistic! If you miss a day or even a week...God still loves you!*

Monday: John 3:10-11

Tuesday: John 3:16-17

Wednesday: John 4:7-10

Thursday: John 6:37-40

Friday: Romans 10:9-15

## Keep It Active

1. Work on memorizing the memory verse for this week.
2. Spend some God time reading your Bible daily (even if you start with 10 minutes a day). You may want to reread 1 Peter 3:15 and think about how you can make a difference in someone's life this week.

## Diving Deeper

Do you have a story to tell?

John 3:16; Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9-10 and John 19:30

When Jesus was nailed to the cross, He did not plead for His life. He knew His Father's plan. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16) What were His thoughts? Why would He willingly accept death? One can only imagine, that as He hung there on the cross and looked out into the world, He saw the forces of evil working to destroy Him. But He knew His Father's love and He wanted the world to see such love that *"while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8).

That is the epitome of love. A Father who gives His Son and a Son who willingly gives His life as a sacrifice. And when the time came after receiving the drink, *"Jesus declared, 'It is Finished.' With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.* (John 19:30)

Jesus' work was complete, and He had fulfilled His Father's plan of salvation. He had completed every requirement necessary to purchase our redemption. His sacrifice was complete, and it had been sufficient to atone for the sin of mankind. His was the final and fulfilling sacrifice. Never again would blood be shed for sin. Jesus did it for all.

He provided the means of salvation for humanity in the offering of His sinless body as the sacrificial atonement for sin. He knew the Father was pleased with His work. After proclaiming that His work was finished, Jesus bowed His head and gave up His spirit. He wasn't murdered on the cross. His life was not taken from Him. He freely gave it at a time of His choosing. He willingly laid it down, and then He powerfully took it up again. He was always in complete control as He went about doing the work of His Father.

Why? So that those who *"confess with their mouth that 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in their heart that God raised Him from the Dead, will be saved"* (Romans 10:9) Having risen triumphantly from the grave; Jesus conquered sin and death. *"Where O death, where is your victory? Where O death, is your sting?"* (1 Corinthians 15:55) Those who belong to Christ in salvation have nothing to fear, not even death! He rose from the grave in resurrection. He endured the unimaginable for us, even while we were still sinners. He opened the way to God through a plan of salvation that was conceived before the creation of mankind, and Jesus executed it perfectly. He endured all of this on our behalf, and for that He is worthy of our love and devotion.

1. What is the significance of God's plan to use His Son as our Savior knowing that there will be many to reject Christ as Savior?
2. When Jesus declared that "It is finished", how can you explain the meaning of this statement considering the horrible death Jesus suffered?
3. Do you know the one who overcame death for you?
4. What is your story and how can it best be shared with others?