

THE CRUCIFIED SAVIOR

CENTRAL TRUTH

In this week's teaching, we will learn about Jesus's crucifixion—the ultimate proof of God's love. **Because Jesus died in our place, we can be forgiven and reconciled to God.** This is good news for all who turn from their rebellion and place their trust in King Jesus.

KEY QUESTION

🕒 What does Jesus mean by “it is finished” (v. 30)?

Because of humanity's sin and rebellion against the Lord, we are under His wrath and deserving of judgment. But the Lord graciously sent Jesus, who lived a sinless life and endured God's wrath so that our sins would be covered. Because of Jesus's death, those who believe are freed from the penalty of sin and reconciled to God. The work Jesus accomplished is truly good news for you and me.

KEEP IN MIND

- Throughout this session, we will see John reference several Old Testament passages. He does this for a reason. Using this session's **History Note** to guide you, help students see how the Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled in Christ. Show your group that we can have confidence in God's Word.
- Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus were secret disciples who publicly identified with Jesus as the two worked together to provide Him with an honorable burial. Perhaps there are students in your small group who can identify with the “secret disciple” label. Rather than motivating them through shame, remind them of God's love for them as they allow that love to motivate them to live boldly for Jesus.

APPLICATION

- ↔ **What are some ways we can celebrate together when we see each other demonstrate our love for Jesus publicly?**

THE WIN

FOR THE STUDENT: This week, students win by knowing that when we're tempted to doubt God's love for us, we can look to Jesus's death on the cross—the ultimate proof of His grace and love. In Christ, we are forgiven and reconciled to God.

FOR THE LEADER: Because of all that Christ has done, we're called to live a life of obedience and thankfulness. As you help students reflect on the work of Christ this week, invite them to express their gratitude to the Lord and lead by example as you do the same.

7 ARROWS

- ↻ What does this passage say?
- ↑ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ← What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ↔ How does this passage change the way I relate to people?
- ↓ What does this passage tell us about the human heart?
- ↻ How does this passage prompt me to pray?
- What does this passage demand of me?