

Unexpected: The Gospel of the Servant King The Day Christ Died

Brad McConnaughey // April 5, 2020

Mark 15:21-41

1. The _____ of the Cross

A. _____ Pain.

B. _____ Agony.

2. The _____ of The Cross

A. The power of _____.

The Cross is an unforgettable demonstration of love and grace:

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins".

1 John 4:9-10

Nothing you will ever do could make God love you more than he does right now.

Nothing you have ever done could make God love you any less.

B. The power of _____.

*"Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water." **Hebrews 10:19-22***

C. The power of _____ over sin.

"He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."

Colossians 2:13b-15

Our Response:

1. **Worship and Adore Him.**
2. **Be a person of the Cross.**
3. **Such an extreme price paid for our salvation calls for extreme obedience out of gratitude to God.**

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- **Judges 16-18; Luke 7**
- **Judges 19-21; Ruth**
- **1 Samuel 1-3; Luke 8**
- **1 Samuel 4-7**
- **1 Samuel 8-10**
- **1 Samuel 11-12; Luke 9**

Sermon questions

Mark 15:20b-41

1. Pastor Brad described how the cross has become the identifying symbol of Christians. Why do you think this is true?

2. Read **Mark 15:20b-41**. In describing the crucifixion, Mark simply states, "They *crucified* Him" (v.24). What do you suppose went on in the minds of Mark's initial readers when they read those words? What goes on in your mind as you read them today?

3. Pastor Brad not only described the physical pain Jesus suffered, but also the spiritual agony. Read **Mark 15:34**. Look up the word, “forsaken” in this verse. What goes on in your mind when you consider this aspect of Jesus’ suffering for you?

4. Read **1 Corinthians 1:18**. Do you think unbelievers today see the cross of Christ as “foolishness”? Explain.

How is the cross the power of God for those who are being saved?

5. Read **Galatians 6:14**. In what do you “boast”? The cross of Christ or something else? Explain.

6. Pastor Brad described three ways in which we experience the power of the cross. Read **Colossians 2:13-15**. Is there a sin in your life that you think is *outside* the scope of God’s forgiveness? How do these verses speak to that kind of thinking?

