



## Part 2: Cause of Death

### Introduction

In this powerful message, we journey through the final moments of Jesus' life, from His trial to His crucifixion, reflecting on His sacrifice and the immeasurable love He displayed for humanity. Join us as we explore the depth of Christ's love and how it can transform our lives and relationships.

### Opening (5-10 minutes)

1. *Icebreaker*

What's something small that felt like a big act of love to you?

2. *Set The Tone*

This week, we reflected on the suffering and death of Jesus — not as a story of guilt, but of radical, intentional love. Jesus' death wasn't random or forced. It was a gift.

### Group Scripture Reading (10-12 minutes)

Assign six group members to each read a passage aloud. Encourage everyone to listen for what Jesus *chooses* to do — and how Paul later reflects on what it accomplished.

1. Matthew 26:26-29 (The Last Supper)
2. Luke 22:39-46 (Gethsemane)
3. John 18:1-11 (The Arrest)
4. John 19:1-16 (Trial & Beating)
5. John 19:17-30 (The Crucifixion & Death)
6. Romans 5:6-11 (Why it matters)

### Discussion Questions (30-40 minutes)

1. What stood out to you from the readings? Was anything surprising or emotional for you?
2. In Gethsemane, Jesus prays, "Not my will, but Yours." What does that say about the nature of His love?
3. The physical suffering of Jesus is severe — but what does His silence and surrender show us about His purpose?
4. Read Romans 5:6-11 again out loud. What specific benefits or results does Paul list as outcomes of Jesus' death?  
(Hint: look for words like justified, reconciled, saved.)
5. How does it feel to hear that Jesus died for you *while you were still powerless, sinful, or even an enemy*?

6. How do you normally respond when you feel unworthy of love — especially from God?  
What would it look like to respond instead with trust, worship, or surrender?
7. What's one thing you could do this week to stay mindful of what Jesus gave for you?  
(Ideas: Read one chapter of John per day, keep a gratitude journal, forgive someone, or serve in love.)

## **Next Steps/Prayer (5-10 minutes)**

- Invite each person to spend time reading John 8-14 this week (1 chapter per day).
- Encourage them to pray: "Jesus, show me who You are."
- Close your group in prayer, thanking God for His love shown through the cross.

Suggested Prayer for the Week:

**Jesus, I don't want to forget what You gave for me.**

**Help me live like someone deeply loved, fully forgiven, and forever Yours.**