

# Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, October 20, 2024

Scripture: Luke 23:44-56



## THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

On the cross, Jesus willingly and obediently fulfilled God's plan to redeem humanity, foreshadowed in the sacrificial system, by acting as the spotless yet sin-laden, once-for-all substitutionary sacrificial lamb to atone for the sins of the world, experiencing God's judgment and satisfying His righteous wrath, the necessary penalty for sin.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

1. Why did Luke (and the other Gospel writers) include the description of the sun's failure to shine during Jesus' crucifixion? What does it symbolize?
2. What was the purpose of the curtain that hung between the holy place and the most holy place of the Temple? Explain why Jesus' death rendered the curtain, the Old Testament priestly class, and the ceremonial system obsolete.
3. What did Jesus accomplish through his death? Why do we need saving, and how are we saved through his work on Calvary (Romans 3:21-26)?
4. How do we know that Jesus' penal substitutionary atonement was a sufficient, once-for-all sacrifice and acceptable to God (verse 46)?
5. Share how this passage substantiates the disciple's prayer in Acts 4:24-28, that God sovereignly acted in the death of Jesus Christ, His Son (Isaiah 53:4-5).
6. What responses to Jesus' death are recorded in these verses (verses 47-49)? Which best reflects your response to Jesus' atoning death?
7. What can we learn from the Roman centurion's praise?
8. Discuss how we, like Jesus, can commit ourselves into the Father's hands when we face death.
9. How can you grow in your willingness, preparedness, and availability to use your God-given gifts, talents, and resources to advance God's Kingdom?
10. Do you have a healthy rhythm of work and rest? What needs to change so that you can truly rest your mind, body, and soul in Christ?