

PMC SERMON "LIVE IT OUT" GUIDE

Date: 18 January 2015

Text: Luke 23:33-34; Romans 5:6-11

Title: The God Who Died For Us

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Series: The Gospel I Love

[For Group Leaders: The following serve only as a guide. Please feel free to adapt according to the needs of your group.]

1. SERMON RECAP

(Visit pmc.org.sg to listen to the sermon and download a copy of the Powerpoint slides)

- a. God demonstrates a love far beyond any human love, by offering His only Son, Jesus, to die sacrificially for us even though we are mere sinners unworthy of His love.
- b. The Cross and the Sacrament of the Holy Communion help us to remember God's sacrificial love for us.
- c. Jesus' victory on the cross was total. He died not just for one person. He died for the world. Through His victory, our relationship with God, once estranged by our rebelliousness, is completely restored.
- d. The blessings of peace and joy follow those who have been justified by the blood of Christ Jesus.

2. PRAY

- a. Jesus died to give us real peace and joy. Are you having this peace and joy right now?
 - i. Break into groups of 2-3 and share your experience.
 - ii. Share with your group one thing that prevents you from experiencing peace and joy. Be specific and let the group pray for you.
- b. Share about someone (preferably a non-believer) who is struggling in life right now. Pray for him/her as a group.

3. LIVE IT OUT

- a. Jesus died for us while we were still sinners and rebels.
 - i. Is there someone at home, work or school that you find particularly unlovable? This week, ask God to

- give you love for him/her. As God leads, do an act of kindness for them.
- ii. Is there someone whom you have not forgiven, or bear a grudge against? The week's message calls us to extend grace and peace to him/her, because Christ died for them too. Do it, with God's help.
- b. Do people whom you interact with on a daily basis see peace and joy in you as a redeemed child of God? As a group, discuss how we can express our peace and joy at work or in school without appearing weird or fake.
 - c. The Good Friday Banquet is one way to share the message of Christ's sacrifice with others. Sign up as a GFB volunteer at pmc.org.sg.
 - d. Sing (or read) this song together as a group, and let the Lord speak to you.

"I the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people's pain;
I have wept for love for them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone;
I will speak My word to them, whom shall I send?"

"Here I am Lord; Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart."

("Here I Am, Lord", 3rd stanza, United Methodist Hymnal)

4. GOING DEEPER

- a. The Via Dolorosa (Latin, "Way of Grief", "Way of Sorrows", "Way of Suffering") is a street within the City of Jerusalem, held to be the path that Jesus walked, carrying his cross, on the way to crucifixion. If you are now at the crossroads and have to make a big decision, what insights or encouragement can you draw from *The Via Dolorosa*? (<http://www.biblewalks.com/Sites/ViaDolorosa.html>)
- b. Jesus' death brings peace to believers (Rom 5.1), yet some Christians do not enjoy this peace. The apostle Paul sees a strong connection between sin and the loss of peace.
 - i. Are there sins that still have claims over us?
 - ii. Read Romans 6:1-14 as a group and discuss how we might be overcomers of the sinful nature.
