

LOVE

JOHN 19.17-27, 28-36
gives all

GROWTH GROUPS NOTES FOR W/C 14 NOVEMBER 2021

We've been looking at John's account of the life of Jesus through the lens (theologians call this the hermeneutic) of LOVE. This study helps us to reflect on the death of Jesus as the supreme act of Divine Love, determined to change humanity's mind about God.

Start your time listening to this song by Salt of the Sound. Use it to still yourself as we start together, so if you can whack the volume up a bit, so much the better!

<https://tinyurl.com/startstill>

The readings are likely to be familiar to you— remember, though, you are reading through the lens of LOVE.



Read John 19.17-27 Have one person read and then take a moment after you have read the passage to let the words sink in.

Can you find LOVE in such a dark and painful place as the cross? Where?

Read John 19.28-36 Have one person read and then take a moment after you have read the passage to let the words sink in.

All power, says Jesus, comes from above... and ultimate power, the revolutionary power, is the footwashing power, the power of radical, transformative love. And on the cross, as John makes clear, that love goes to work.

N T Wright

Wright sets the cross within the context of the wider life and ministry of Jesus.

Think together about how God's love is shown to us (of which the cross is a central part).

God, in freedom embraces our own limitations, our own failures, our own hopes and longings. God travels the road of Love, and ends with Love; that Love so hard to see in the misery of the abandoned Jesus on the cross, that Love which glorifies the whole creational project in the Resurrection. **How do we allow this kind of Love to form us and shape our lives?**

Pray together: You do not love me because I am good; You love me because You are good. Nothing I do will either decrease or increase Your eternal and infinite eagerness to love me!