

## Seeker Study 7 | **The Cross**

**Purpose:** *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:16-17) This is the pinnacle of the gospel message. We are saved through grace. There is hope! We're saved through Jesus' loving sacrifice. Be sure that the seeker has seen his or her need for grace, so that this study will be powerful. It's also important for the seeker to understand his or her responsibility for Jesus' death. Establishing personal responsibility will later bring about great joy and gratitude for Jesus' personal love and forgiveness.*

### **Scriptures:**

**Romans 3:21-27** *All are in need of grace, for all have sinned. Christ is atonement (temple illustration) for the wrath we've earned. He redeems us (slavery illustration), he justifies us (legal illustration). Discuss the illustrations.*

**Romans 4:22-25** *We have Jesus' righteousness credited to us through faith. Jesus died for our sins and was raised for our justification. He takes our sins and gives us His righteousness in return!*

**Romans 5:6-11** *Jesus died for us while we were at our worst, enemies of God, weak and sinful. His blood changes all that and reconciles us to God.*

**Mark 14:26 & 15:41** *Jesus chose to die for us.*

**Q:** Who killed Jesus?

*I did, and you did. Reflect on the reasons why Jesus endures these afflictions (My sins require it, and His love offers it).*

**1 Peter 2:21-25** *Why did Jesus die on the cross for us? So that we might die to sin and live for the new righteousness that the cross provides. This is our response to the cross.*

**Acts 2:36-41** *Peter has preached the message of the cross.*

**Q:** What are the next steps?

**John 3:16-21**

**Q:** Do you prefer light or darkness?

**Additional Scriptures:** *Matthew 26:17-27:56 (Suggest reading this before the study and/or viewing the Passion of the Christ) Isaiah 52:13-53:13, Psalm 22, Acts 2:22-38, Colossians 2:13-14, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 1:29*