

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....”
1 Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Luther & Martha Smith | Papua New Guinea



PRAY

- Pray for expansion of the Bible School and government paperwork for the school property.
- Pray for Verda and Gary Keck as they will be left the field in December. Gary was diagnosed with lung cancer-stage 1 and they are seeking medical help in the States.

PRAISE

- Praise God for 2 families that graduated Bible School in December and are now beginning their ministry.
- Praise God for reports of souls being saved and the work doing forward in Wau.
- Blessings to present PNG at Alamance Christian Academy's elementary chapels, as well as our granddaughter, Mackenzie's, 5th grade class! Children are so excited about missions!

GREATER LOVE

Handout: 04/06/25

Study Date: 04/13/25

Greater Love: Sacrifice

*So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!”
And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.*

—John 19:30

The "sour wine" mentioned in prior verses was either something meant to numb pain (Matthew 27:34), or simply a harsh liquid that happened to be nearby when Jesus noted His thirst (John 19:28). Either way, Jesus knew He was seconds away from death.

John presents Jesus' declaration here using the Greek word *tetelestai*. Archaeologists have found this word inscribed on records to indicate debts which have been paid, or obligations which have been met. That which Jesus was sent to accomplish—an atonement for sin on behalf of mankind (2 Corinthians 5:21)—is entirely and fully completed in this moment: "It is *finished*." No further work needs to be done, nor can it be done (Titus 3:5). There is no room for other actions, rituals, sacraments, sacrifices, or payments to accomplish salvation (1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 10:12–14).

The fact that Jesus is said to "give up his spirit" is significant. Matthew and Luke make similar observations (Matthew 27:50; Luke 23:46). From a physical standpoint, Jesus' body has suffered fatal injury. And yet, His death is entirely an act of His own will. That included His willingness to be born into human form (John 1:14), to submit to God's will (Matthew 26:39), and to allow His own arrest and execution (Philippians 2:8). Whether literally, or as a statement of agreement, Scripture clarifies that Jesus is "giving up" His life to God the Father—it is not being stripped away from Him by force (John 10:17–18).

Resource: bibleref.com

KEY VERSE

John 19:30 (NKJV)

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Read John 19:17-30 Every Day

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: John 19:30

Introduction

1. John 19:30 is an incredibly significant piece of scripture in God's Word. What had Jesus accomplished when he utters the words "*It is finished*"?
2. What can we learn from paragraph 3 on pg. 1 about Jesus' obedience to The Father? Ultimately who's "choice" was it that He die on the cross?

Tuesday: John 3:16; John 19:30

What Is Love?

3. How would YOU define LOVE? What words and examples would YOU use to describe to another it's true meaning?
4. Now that you have defined LOVE from your "human" perspective, based on John 3:16 & John 19:30 what "word" would you use to define God's love?

Wednesday: Galatians 2:20; Genesis 3:15,22:8; Hebrews 9:22

The Passover Lamb

5. What is Paul conveying to us in Galatians 2:20 when he says; "*I have been crucified with Christ*"? Who are we called to live for according to this verse.
6. Referencing Hebrews 9:22 What must be given that our sins will be forgiven? What did Jesus "*shed*" for us on the cross?

Thursday: I John 3:16; John 19:19; I Pet. 3:18; 1 Cor. 13:7

A Crown Of Thorns

7. As believers, our Savior's action in 1 John 3:16 is well known! While it clearly documents Jesus' sacrifice, what does it call His followers to do?
8. Jesus was not only hung on the cross, He was brutally beaten and crowned with a crown of thorns! *Who* really deserved this crown? (I Peter 3:18)
9. As followers of Jesus we are called to emulate His sacrificial love! How must we achieve this according to 1 Corinthians 13:7?

Friday: Galatians 6:14; I Pet. 2:24; I John. 1:9; Romans 12:1-2

The Cross Of Christ

10. Why does Paul state that he dare not "*boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ*"? How is the cross a symbol of new creation? (Gal. 6:14)
11. Before Jesus' death, the cross was a symbol of guilt, shame and punishment. What does it symbolize to us as believers now?
12. According to Paul's statement in Romans 12:1-2, God's will is that we daily "*present our bodies a living sacrifice.*" Are YOU?