Session 1 // Last Words: Forgiveness for Us

Connect - These questions help get the conversation started. Pick one or two.
What changes peoples’ lives? How can change bring positive outcomes?
How does Jesus’ teachings change lives?
What is mankind’s biggest need? Why?

Watch Corresponding Video; Read Luke 23:32-34

Grow / Share
1. How does a person extend/offer forgiveness?
2. What reaction do most people have when they’ve been wronged? How can we strive to have a Christ-like response?
3. Who is Jesus interceding for in Luke 23:34? Does this include us? Why or why not?
4. How is forgiveness something we receive and in turn give to others?
5. How often should we forgive others? (Matt 18:21-22) Why?
6. Why does unforgiveness hurt the person unwilling to forgive?
7. Is there an offence that is too “unforgiveable?” Why is God greater than any offence?
8. Is there a story of forgiveness that you can share with the group where you had grace extended to you? How was God glorified in this action?
9. Is there a story of forgiveness that you can share with the group where you extended grace to someone? How was God glorified in this action?
10. Is there forgiveness that you need to offer someone?

Serve
Pray that the forgiveness God grants to you will easily flow to those around you.

Digging Deeper
Contemplate the lasting words you are leaving in the lives of those around you. How can you pour Christ’s life and words in to those who you influence?
Connect - These questions help get the conversation started. Pick one or two.

- What are some “dark” situation where people ask, “Why God?”
- Can you relay a story of when a person cried out to God and asked why certain things happen that doesn’t seem to make sense?
- Is being alone easy or difficult for people? Why?

Watch Corresponding Video; Read Matthew 27:45-46

Grow / Share
1. Forsaken…what might this word elicit for people in their life?
2. When a person hears the word “forsaken,” what thoughts, feelings, or images might one conjure up?
3. How can a person overcome being “forsaken?”
4. We, who are born in sin and who are accustomed to sin’s constant presence within us, still feel shame and guilt when we sin. Imagine then how it would feel for God in the flesh, who is perfectly holy and righteous, and for whom sin is the exact antithesis and opposite of everything about His being, to not just take on a few sins, but to actually become sin for the entire world? How do you think Jesus felt when He who knew no sin, became sin for us...He, for the first time, experienced sin?
5. Why was Jesus forsaken on the cross by God the Father?
6. How do you think Jesus felt when He was forsaken by God the Father? Are His feelings any different than ours about being forsaken? Why or why not?
7. Why did darkness cover the land for three hours?
8. What might be the darkest hour of a person’s life? Why?
9. What do you think was Jesus’ darkest hour? Why?
10. What are some things people rely on when they feel abandoned and/or forsaken? What is harmful? Beneficial.
11. How does God view a person in the midst of difficulty?

Serve
Pray that God will give you discernment and strength to love those who feel forsaken.

Digging Deeper
Jesus became forsaken so that we would not be forsaken.
Jesus was forsaken so we could be forgiven.
God stands ready to respond to the forsaken and repentant.
Session 3 // Last Words: Committed to Us

Connect - These questions help get the conversation started. Pick one or two.

- Is there something you have been committed to for a long period of time? What? Why this level of commitment?
- What kind of outcomes come with commitment? Why?
- Why are commitments important?

Watch Corresponding Video; Read Luke 22:39-44

Grow / Share
1. What feelings does a person experience when they have finished/completed a project? Why is this?
2. What did Jesus “finish” on the cross? Why did God the Father ordain this?
3. How can a person be committed to God’s will?
4. How can a believer remain committed and consistent to God? How does a committed and consistent believer encourage those around them?
5. How do commitment and consistency have eternal implications?
6. Is the call of Jesus for us any less different than it was for the disciples or the Apostle Paul? Why or why not? How does a person actually live out their faith in Christ?
7. What does a person’s life look like that says “Yes” to God’s call for their life?
8. Reflect on Jesus’ words, “It is finished.” All prophesy (O.T.) was fulfilled and completed at that particular moment. Why was Jesus so committed to us?
9. If you are alive…you still have unfinished work. What is God calling you to accomplish? To finish?

Serve
Thank God that He was willing to finish His work on the cross for our opportunity to have an eternal relationship with Christ.

Digging Deeper
“Well done, good and faithful servant.” (Matt 25:21)
Consider the joy a person experiences when they hear these words of commitment.
Session 4 // Last Words: Suffered for Us

Connect - These questions help get the conversation started. Pick one or two.
• How do you define “Truth?”
• How does our culture define “truth?”
• Why is “absolute Truth” necessary for those who trust in Jesus?

Watch Corresponding Video; Read Luke 23:32-43

Grow / Share
1. What responses do people have to suffering? Why are there so many different types of responses?
2. What do you think would be the greatest suffering a person could experience? Why?
3. How can a person “journey through” suffering?
4. How can we encourage people in their time of suffering?
5. How can we respond positively to suffering?
6. How does a person responding to suffering reflect a relationship with Christ?
7. What is the difference between the two thieves on the cross? Why will one be in paradise and not the other? Each of us is one of the two thieves on the cross...why?
8. Why did Jesus, a sinless man, have to be crucified? If Jesus came today, who would crucify Him? Why?
9. What hope does Christ’s crucifixion give us? Why?

Serve
Pray that God will help you to respond with grace through suffering and trials.

Digging Deeper
What impresses you most about Jesus and His last words during His crucifixion? Why?