



It Had to Be Done | Levi Lusko | 4.10.22

Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What's the best thing you've ever bought off Amazon?

SHARE

Welcome back to Group! This week we had Levi Lusko with us! He brought such a timely word as we prepare our hearts and consider the cross that without Good Friday there could be no Easter Sunday. As Levi said this week, Jesus' excruciating death on the cross was the only way and it had to be done to rescue us all from life without him.

But before we dive in, take a few minutes to check in with your Group:

What has been bringing you "life" recently?

GROW

Read John 12:20-33

There is so much richness in this passage of Scripture. It starts out with 'certain Greeks' who humbly come and just want to see Jesus. They had heard and they came. This is the constant beckoning of God towards us. He is calling out to us in all things he has created to come near and linger in his presence as we give glory and honor to him.

Think of something that God uses to draw you near to him. It may be the majestic mountains, the power of the ocean waves or the peace of a sleeping baby... Share with your group.

Levi talked about Andrew and how throughout his journey he always brought people to Jesus. He understood the assignment. He understood what it meant to “taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8) and he wanted everyone to experience it themselves.

Who was it that brought you to Jesus? Share that experience with your group.

Just as Andrew, who in your life needs to be brought to Jesus? Take time in your group to pray for that person who needs to experience God’s radical love. And it may be such time as this to the simple invitation to Easter weekend.

It was said that “In every death, there is life - this is the big message of the time of Lent and of Easter. The grain of wheat will die and will through death nourish us with food. In the death of relationships, of health, of faith and all that may be dear to us there is always the invitation to deeper life. In our final death is the call to everlasting life.”

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.’ In your life, what needs to fall into the earth and die in order for you to bear much fruit?

Jesus knew what it would require of him, an excruciating death on the cross. Out of that love he came down, putting human flesh on out of obedience to his Father. Jesus accepted the cup because he knew there was no other way. His love for us runs that deep.

Unpack this Truth with your group. How does understanding Jesus’ obedience transform how you live your daily life?

M O V E

Read Isaiah 53:1-12

This week Levi shared that the only way for us to have salvation, purpose, hope and to continue to do Jesus' work here on earth was his excruciating death on the cross.

In Acts 4:12 it says that "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." Jesus knew that he was the only one who could bring salvation, so he did. Jesus knew what it would require of him, an excruciating death on the cross. Out of that love he came down, putting human flesh on out of obedience to his Father. Jesus accepted the cup because he knew there was no other way. His love for us runs that deep.

Unpack this Truth with your group. How does understanding Jesus' obedience transform how you live your daily life?

Jesus' death on the cross had to be done to reveal our purpose here on earth. We can lean in and watch the way of Jesus, he came to "serve and not to be served" (Matthew 20:28). We read in John 12:25-26, "Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me."

What does it look like for you to live your daily life in an act of service to all those around you? In your home, at the local grocery store, in your workplace, at school? How will this change things?

Jesus' death on the cross brought hope to the ends of the earth. We have hope in Jesus' life and hope for what is to come. Levi described having hope in what is to come but also "as life continues." We read in John 14:16-17 that God gives us his Holy Spirit to advocate on our behalf, to bring us comfort in faithful promise that he will be with us. This is our hope on this side of eternity and on the other.

What is stealing your hope right now? Where do you need God to infuse hope into your life?

Jesus' death on the cross commissions us to represent him and make him known to the ends of the earth. We read in John 14:12 that "whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

Think of the life of Jesus. The physical healings, the casting out of demons, the many miracles, how does knowing that ‘we will do even greater things than that’ change the way you walk through life? Does your life prove evidence of this? Explain.

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

T O G O

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was on him and by his wounds we are healed. -Isaiah 53:5