



a passion  
for  
*Jesus*



## Study questions

March 22<sup>nd</sup> '20

In this 4 week series leading up to Easter we're looking at what led up to Jesus' death, why His death was necessary, what the cross achieved, and its implications for our lives. These are disorientating times – and our prayer is that God would speak to us all through His word and bring us His peace by assuring us of His Presence with us.

1. Read Ephesians 2:13.

i) Think through each part of this sentence to really take in what Paul is saying.

ii) How would you answer someone who said that they were doing their best to get to heaven, and hoped that God would overlook their minor failings?

iii) What does being "in Christ" mean? Several places in Scripture refer to the believer's being "in Christ" e.g. 1 Peter 5:14, Romans 8:1, Colossians 3:3. How does this truth about being in Christ help us in our current situation?

2. Read Ephesians 2:19-22. What specific things does this passage say about God's blessing on our lives? How can we live out these truths when we can't all meet together?

3. Look up Hebrews 12:1-3. What future joy do you think Jesus had in mind when he endured the cross? What can we learn from this?

Romans 15:13 says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

- Pray specifically about the immediate needs of those in your small group
- Pray that many would turn to God for help in these times

Prayer from the National Day of Prayer

### For those who are ill

Jesus, we thank you that we can trust you in this time. And today we want to lift those who are not well in your tender care. those, who are ill, who are in pain, who are fearful of what the future holds. We pray that your everlasting arms will keep them safe.

Comfort them and heal them, restore them to health and strength through Jesus Christ our lord.

Amen

For hospital staff and medical researchers

Jesus, we thank you that you have blessed your people with amazing gifts and so we pray this morning for the hospital staff, and the medical researchers. We pray that you give them skill, sympathy and resilience to all of those caring for those who are poorly. We pray that you grant wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### For the Christian community

Jesus, for our Christian community,

Help us to know that

We are not people of fear:  
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:

we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:  
we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,  
giving and loving,

wherever we are,  
whatever it costs

For as long as it takes  
wherever you call us.

In Jesus' name Amen