



Our Theme For 2024:

SHAPED
by the
GOSPEL

Romans 1:16

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

**All Scriptures from 1995 New American Standard*

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

¹ Now I make known to you, brethren,
the gospel which I preached to you,
which also you received, in which also
you stand,

² by which also you are saved, if you
hold fast the word which I preached to
you, unless you believed in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

Looking Up From the Cross



Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Commitment



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Matthew 20:28

²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 26:53-54

⁵³ Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

⁵⁴ How then will the Scriptures be fulfilled, *which say* that it must happen this way?”

Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Innocence



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Matthew 26:59-60

⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death.

⁶⁰ They did not find *any*, even though many false witnesses came forward. ...

Matthew 27:18

¹⁷ So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?”

¹⁸ For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over.

Matthew 27:24

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this Man’s blood; see *to that* yourselves.”

Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Mocking



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Matthew 26:67-68

⁶⁷ Then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him,

⁶⁸ and said, “Prophecy to us, You Christ; who is the one who hit You?”

Matthew 27:27-31

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole *Roman* cohort around Him.

²⁸ They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him.

Matthew 27:27-31

²⁹ And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

Matthew 27:27-31

³⁰ They spat on Him, and took the reed and *began* to beat Him on the head.

³¹ After they had mocked Him, they took the *scarlet* robe off Him and put His *own* garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him.

Matthew 27:39-44

³⁹ And those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads
⁴⁰ and saying, “You who *are going to* destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

Matthew 27:39-44

⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking *Him* and saying,

⁴² “He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him.

Matthew 27:39-44

⁴³ HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE *Him* now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

⁴⁴ The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Pain



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Matthew 27:26

²⁶ Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Forsaken



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Matthew 26:56

⁵⁶ But all this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures of the prophets.” Then all the disciples left Him and fled.

Matthew 27:45-46

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour.

⁴⁶ About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?” that is, “MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?”

Reminders About Jesus and the Cross

Strength



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Matthew 27:34

³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull,

³⁴ they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting *it*, He was unwilling to drink.

Matthew 27:50

⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

Matthew 27:54

⁵⁴ Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

Looking Up From the Cross

-The biggest thing
we see about God in
the cross: God love.



John 15:13

¹³ Greater love has no one than this,
that one lay down his life for his
friends.

Romans 5:8

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1 John 3:16

¹⁶ We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Looking Up From the Cross

-Seeing the cross
causes me to look
inward also:

how have I responded
to God's love?



Revelation 2:1-4

[To the church at Ephesus]

² 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false;

Revelation 2:1-4

³ and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

⁴ But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love.

Looking Up From the Cross

-Seeing the cross
causes me to look
outward also:

I want to help others
know God's love.



1 John 4:9

⁹ By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.



Galatians 6:14

¹⁴ But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.



Let's allow the cross to continually
shape us!

1 Corinthians 2:2

² For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.



Let's make the cross our life's
message!

Acts 2:37-38

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.