

## Big Idea

Jesus is the ultimate Legend of our faith. He taught us 7 principles when he went to the cross. When we feel exhausted and ready to quit, we have to keep our eyes on Jesus. Jesus understands what you are going through – He’s been there.

1. **Forgive everyone.** Jesus, as He’s experiencing the brutality of the cross, the very statement he makes is “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” Unforgiveness doesn’t have a place in our hearts. Resentment is a dream killer. “Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us...”.
  - Forgiveness isn’t minimizing the seriousness of the issue.
  - Forgiveness isn’t saying that what they did was ok.
  - Forgiveness isn’t instant restoration of the trust.
2. **Help others, even when you are struggling.** From the cross, Jesus ministered to one of the criminals who was crucified next to him.
3. **Take care of those closest to you.** Jesus, on the cross, looks down and sees his mom and asks one of the disciples to look after her. When life is giving us its worst, instead of taking it out on our family – we need to love them and care for them.
4. **There are some things you will never understand until you get to heaven.** When we go through the worst moments, this is usually when we go through the “why” questions with God. Even Jesus did on the cross... “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? If you continually dwell in the realm of the “why”, it will destroy you. Trust that God always does the right thing. Trust is never required until you don’t get it.
5. **Be human enough to acknowledge your need.** On the cross, Jesus was thirsty. He had a need and asked for a drink. Jesus reminds us all that none of us can ever get to the place that we think that we don’t need someone else. He gives us permission to be honest and ask for help.
6. **Be assured, there is a purpose and an end.** In every bad day, two things will always happen: (1) There’s a purpose, and (2) there’s coming an end. Bad days never again need to be pointless. Bad days never again need to be unending. Jesus said on the cross, “It is finished”.
7. **Surrender your day to God and let it go.** The last thing Jesus said before He died on the cross was, “Father, into your hands I commit by spirit”. A lot of us are still trying to figure out our problems on our own – but we need to commit them to God. Stop trying and let go.

*“Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we’re in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed – that exhilarating finish in and with God – he could put up with anything along the way” (Hebrews 12 2-3 MSG).*

## Discussion Questions

1. Of the seven principles Jesus taught us from the cross, which do you need to adapt?
2. Which are the hardest/easiest for you?
3. What does/will it look like for you to adapt any of these principles?
4. Have you ever experienced leading someone to the Lord? If so, can you share what that was like?

## Next Steps

- How can we pray for you this week? Write down each person’s prayer requests and make it a point to pray for them and text them with an encouraging word at some point during the week.

## Prayer Focus

- Pray for God to reveal to us any areas where we need to adapt the principles of the cross.
- Pray for our trust in God to increase.
- Pray for God to stop the spread of the coronavirus.