

# *famous* **last words.**

Sunday, April 10, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Dave Winters

## Part 3 | **Jesus's Famous Surrender**

**Luke 23:46**

Run to the **Father**,

Psalm 68:5; John 12:27-28; Matthew 6:9

put your life in his **hands**.

Hebrew 1:10; John 10:28-29; Acts 4:28; Acts 11:21

After surrender comes **resurrection**.

Matthew 6:9-10; Luke 22:41-42; 2 Corinthians 12:8-9; John 12:24; Matthew 16:24-25

**Trusting vs. Demanding**

**P-R-A-Y** pattern for prayer

**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card at the Connect Desk.

**Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.** For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this as a guide for further study and growth personally.

## Getting Started

**In this short series we're looking at some of Jesus's famous last words before his death.** The symbol of the cross is used in many ways —on and in Christian churches, by the Red Cross, on many European flags. It is used as jewelry, even by people with no allegiance to Christ. But they would not think of wearing a burnished gold miniature of an electric chair or an injection needle around their necks. In Jesus' time the crude wooden cross meant capital punishment for the worst criminals.

Under Roman law Jesus died as a criminal. In God's eternal plan Jesus died as the sacrificial substitute for us sinners. Many hymns and gospel songs retain this core truth. (Few contemporary songs do that.) Approach this study prayerfully for a deeper understanding of the death of Jesus.

*In what circumstances did you first understand the meaning of Jesus's cross?*

*Has reflection on Jesus's death ever deeply moved you? Why or why not?*

## Review...

**Review your message notes.** What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it as a group.

## Digging Deeper

**Read Luke 22:47–62.** As you do, reflect on it and try to sense the drama of Jesus's arrest on the Mount of Olives.

1. In a word or phrase, how would you describe Jesus as he relates to each individual or group during his arrest?
2. Only a few hours after Simon Peter swore unique loyalty to Jesus, he makes an about-face. In what kind of situation are you tempted to avoid identification with Jesus and his cause?
3. To have Jesus executed the Jewish council needs a political indictment of treason from the Roman governor Pilate. **Read Luke 23:1–31.** Jesus is silent, or nearly so, before Governor Pilate and King Herod (23:3, 9; see also 22:67). What reasons can you think of for his silence?

4. Three times Pilate says he finds no valid charge against Jesus and seeks to release him (23:4, 13–17, 22). Why then do you think he ultimately pronounces the death penalty?
5. **Read 23:32–56.** How do you picture the appearance of the faces of each group or individual as they watch the man on the cross?  
Luke says little about Jesus' physical death. Instead he focuses on people's attitudes to the man on the center cross. What attitude toward Jesus does each group or individual reveal?
6. Luke highlights one of the criminals, the only person with whom Jesus personally dialogues. What may be Luke's reason for this focus (23:39–43)?
7. Throughout his six hours on the cross, Jesus is in touch with his Father. What do his brief words to the Father reflect about their relationship (23:34, 46)?
8. Luke carefully records the physical phenomena occurring at the point of Jesus' last breath (23:44–45). What meaning can we gain from these events? (See also Hebrews 10:19–25.)
9. What can we as the church do to make God's word from the cross relevant to our needy world?
10. How could the cross become more central and significant to your own life?

## Closing

*Pray for everyone in your group, and that together you will make a difference in others' lives because you have heard God's word from the cross of Jesus.*

**PRAY ABOUT THOSE YOU'LL INVITE FOR EASTER NEXT SUNDAY!**

## Now or Later...

Think through how to explain the good news of Jesus' death to a seeker. You can combine Luke 23:32–43 (or 23:44–49) with a gospel summary like 2 Corinthians 5:21 or 8:9, or Titus 3:4–6. Look for an opportunity to share what you are learning.

*This week's study is adapted from Ada Lum, Luke 9–24: New Joy: 15 Studies for Individuals or Groups: With Notes for Leaders, A LifeGuide Bible Study (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect: An Imprint of InterVarsity Press, 2001), 55–58.*

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 E E T I S T O P P E D O V  
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 P E M C A L L E D T R E M  
 E B P N O O N A W A Y R D  
 N I V T K C O M M I T F '  
 E P T O O K S H I N I N G  
 D A R K N E S S U R E L Y

## Word Find in the Word

*Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.*

### Word Find for Luke 23:44-49 (NIV)

*Find the words **bolded** below.*

<sup>44</sup>It was now about **noon**. The whole **land** was **covered** with **darkness** until **three o'clock**. <sup>45</sup>The sun had **stopped shining**. The **temple curtain** was **torn** in two.

<sup>46</sup>**Jesus called** out in a **loud voice**, "**Father**, into your **hands I commit my very life**." After he **said** this, he **took** his **last breath**. <sup>47</sup>The **Roman commander** saw what had **happened**. He **praised** God and **said**, "**Jesus was surely** a man who did what was right." <sup>48</sup>The people had gathered to watch that sight. When they saw what **happened**, they beat their chests and went **away**. <sup>49</sup>But all those who knew **Jesus** stood not **very far away**, watching those things. They included the women who had followed him from Galilee.