

Journey towards the Cross

Topic:

The Cross is our greatest hope.

Bible Portion:

Luke 23:33

Focus:

Crucifixion: The Cross is our greatest hope.



April 02, 2026

A daily devotional for lent season

40-Day Gospel Reading Plan

Bible Readings for Today

John 19



Have you Read your Bible today?

Memory Verse for the day

“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

John 19:30 (ESV)

Quote

“Unless there is a Good Friday in your life there can be no Easter Sunday.”

- Fulton J. Sheen.

“When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him...”

Luke 23:33

Crucifixion was a feared and shameful form of execution. Victims were forced to carry their crosses along public roads as a warning to others. Death came slowly—through exhaustion and suffocation. It was a place of humiliation, pain, and finality.

Some scholars say that Golgotha (“Skull”) derives its name from its appearance. It stood as a reminder of judgment and death. Yet it is here, at this very place that God chose to accomplish His greatest work. Into this place of suffering and shame, Jesus willingly entered.

When James and John once asked for places of honor beside Him in His kingdom (*Mark 10:35–39*), Jesus told them they did not understand what they were asking. They desired glory, but Jesus spoke of suffering.

Now, as He inaugurates His kingdom through His death, the places at His right and left are occupied not by honored rulers, but by dying criminals.

The message is clear: the way to the kingdom is the way of the cross.

To follow Jesus is not a call to comfort, but to surrender. As He taught His disciples, anyone who desires to be close to Him must be prepared to suffer and die—to self, to pride, and to worldly ambition.

Yet the cross is not only a symbol of suffering—it is the source of our greatest hope.

What was meant for shame became the doorway to redemption. Jesus did not resist the cross; He embraced it. He bore the weight of our sin, our brokenness, and our separation from God. In that moment, He transformed the meaning of suffering forever.

Because of the cross, we know that God is not distant from our pain. He has entered into it. He understands sorrow, rejection, and injustice. And more than that, He has overcome them.



The cross declares that sin does not have the final word. Death is not the end. God brings life out of death, light out of darkness, and hope out of despair.

During this Lenten season, we are invited not just to look at the cross, but to come near to it. It calls us to trust, to surrender, and to believe.

For in the cross, we find this unshakable truth: we are deeply loved, fully forgiven, and never alone.



Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for the cross. Help us to see it not as a symbol of defeat, but as the source of our greatest hope. Teach us to follow You in surrender and to live in the freedom You have given. Amen.

-Rev. I. Kingsley Johnpaul

Prayer Point



Let us pray for Rev. V. P. Ingle,
Rev. P. William James, Rev. Dn. Marshal Dhinakaran,
Rev. Dn. Richa Swapnil Uzgare,
Rev. Dn. Sagar Promod Bansode, Rev. Ulhas S. Raiborde,
and Rev. Jeffrey C. Bardey and for their families and the
churches entrusted to them.

