



Sermon Growth Guide

October 4, 2020

The Beautiful Story – Broken Beauty

John 19:16–30

Key Verse: John 19:30

“When He had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.”

Big Idea: Beauty was broken that I might have life.

Foundations

Here in the eighth week of *The Beautiful Story*, we wrestle with the climax of human rebellion against God, the moment we crucified God. “It was my sin that held Him there” writes Stuart Townend in the well-known hymn, *How Deep The Father’s Love For Us*.

Pastor Tim explains, “Here at the cross is a distillation of the horror of human rebellion against God ... the hammer falls, the cross goes up, beauty shatters.”

Moreover, a way is made. Reconciliation. Restoration. Redemption. We learn this week that it is nothing short of the very love of God that finds the Son of God hanging on a cross.

“How deep the Father’s love for us,” the hymn continues, “How vast beyond all measure / That He should give His only Son / To make a wretch His treasure.”

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this,” reflects the apostle Paul. “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” You are so loved by God that He stopped at nothing to make a way for you to come back home.

Open and close your time of further study and application in prayer. Ask the Spirit of God to guide and guard your time in His Word.

Understanding God’s Word

Christianity affirms that Jesus is the Son of God, fully God and fully man. Discuss the ugliness and hatred of God dying on a cross.

In what ways does Jesus care for His mother in verses 25–27?

Discuss in length what Jesus means when He says, “It is finished” in verse 30.

Applying God’s Word

This week we process that God the Father gave His one and only Son to die the death that we deserve. How do we apply such extravagant love to our daily walk?

Take time to process in community how your moment-by-moment decision-making ought to be impacted by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. What situation in your life would you like to give over to God for His good purposes even more?

Witnessing God’s Word

Think of one person who has yet to grasp the true sacrifice of Jesus for them personally. Take a moment to close your time by praying for this person. Discern a sacrificial action you can take to demonstrate the love of God to them.