

# LAST WORDS



WEEK OF 03/08/26

THE WORD OF PROVISION

JOHN 19:23-27

## Silence (1-2 minutes)

Sit silently for a minute as a way to center your heart and invite the Holy Spirit to help you listen to and receive God's Word.

## Opening Prayer (2-3 minutes)

Read: John 19:23–27

## Devotional

How do we view the death of Jesus? From the surface, this eye-witness account seems like a tragedy, an innocent man tortured and nailed to the cross—the good guy lost the battle. When we dig deeper into Luke's telling of the events though, a story of provision and family shines through, a story where Mary, His mother, gains a son and John, His disciple, gains a mother. Adding in the fulfillment of prophecies and Jesus' concern for His mother during his dying breaths, Luke teaches us that Jesus' pain on the cross was not an end to His life but was the beginning of the family of the crucified Christ, or in other words, this week's Big Idea that **"the cross was not the end of Jesus' family, the cross was where it began."**

1. What is your definition of family?
2. What is the kindest thing someone in your family has done for you?

*John 19:23–24* | *Callous*, this word describes the actions of the Roman soldiers who executed Jesus. Before Jesus had even died, they divided His clothing and cast lots for His tunic. Yes, Roman law gave the executioners rights to His clothing, but John wrote these verses for a more important reason than to state Roman law. He wrote these words to point out that the soldiers' actions fulfilled Scripture (see Psalm 22). Ultimately, the callousness of godless soldiers fulfilled God's Word.

3. Why is fulfillment of prophecy important, and how does this prophetic fulfillment change your perspective about your troubles?

*John 19:26–27* | *Loving*, this word describes Jesus' action of ensuring His mother, Mary, a widow, was cared for after His death. Before Jesus died, He pronounced Mary the mother of His apostle John and His apostle John the son of Mary. Jesus' action shows a stark contrast to the soldiers' actions. Whereas the soldiers' actions tore a family apart, Jesus' action formed a family that began with the crucified Christ.

4. We live under the resurrected strength of Christ. How has this truth affected your life?

5. Think about your spiritual family. How and why did God unite you?

If we're to remember one word from this week's sermon, it is *Behold!* Behold the fulfilled prophecies of God. Behold God's Son who sees us. Behold the family He gives us, from this hour. Behold, because our invitation to God's family was delivered at the cross.

6. From this hour, what behavior can you change that will help you to behold your family better? Behold your situation better?

7. What words has God spoken to you through this passage of Scripture?

### **Closing Prayer**

Jesus, Son of God, we behold you as our Savior who experienced excruciating pain yet cared for your mother with your dying breaths. From this hour, bless us with the same loving-kindness for every member of our family, blood and spiritual, and give us the grace to love as you love us. In your name I pray. Amen.

### **Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)**

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