

LENTEN STUDY

# A Cross *in the* Heart of God

*Reflections on the death of Jesus*

Join Pastor Jacob this Lenten season on Wednesdays at 7pm (via Google Meet) and Sundays during worship as we explore the cross in the heart of God. We will explore the centrality of Jesus' crucifixion to Christianity and what it says about God's desire to be with us.

We will be reading *A Cross in the Heart of God: Reflections on the death of Jesus* by Samuel Wells (Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press, 2020). In this book, Wells explores the cross in the Old Testament, the Epistles, and the Gospels.

Limited copies of the book are available. See below for the reading guide for the discussion group. On the reverse side of this leaflet you will find this week's study guide.

If you would like a free copy of the book, need joining information, or have questions about this study, please contact Pastor Jacob ([jacob@franklinumc.org](mailto:jacob@franklinumc.org)).

## DISCUSSION GROUP

WEDNESDAYS, 7 PM, VIA GOOGLE MEET

February 22	Introduction & Part I
March 1	Part II, Chapters 3-5
March 8	Part II, Chapters 6-8
March 15	Part III, Chapters 9-11
March 22	Part III, Chapters 12-14
March 29	Part IV, Chapters 15-17
April 5	Part IV, Chapters 18-20

## WORSHIP

SUNDAYS, 10 AM  
IN PERSON IN THE SANCTUARY  
IN PERSON VIA GOOGLE MEET  
STREAMING ON YOUTUBE

WORSHIP SERVICE RECORDINGS CAN BE FOUND ON YOUTUBE; VIDEOS OF THE REFLECTION CAN BE FOUND ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

# LENTEN STUDY

WEEK OF MARCH 8

The following study guide was written by Samuel Wells and can be found in the final pages of *A Cross in the Heart of God: Reflections on the death of Jesus* (Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press, 2020).

## READ

Part II, Chapters 6-8

## PRAY

God of compassion and tenderness,  
in Christ you say,  
'Nothing is more important than you.'  
By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
so order our lives that we may be formed in  
the likeness of Jesus.  
Be close to all who  
through suffering and oppression  
are contorted  
into the shape of your son's crucified body.  
Open our eyes that we may behold where  
your children are crucified today,  
that we may see your face in theirs.  
In the name of your son. Amen.

## TALK, LISTEN, WONDER

Tell about a time you felt you'd been set free.  
Tell about an occasion that felt like a  
prefiguration of heaven on earth.  
Tell about a time you saw someone being  
made a scapegoat.

I wonder whether you've ever been in awe of  
someone's faith.  
In wonder whether there can be real truth in  
pain.  
I wonder what it feels like to realize someone  
has saved your life.

## NOTES AND PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

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