

DISCOVERY



CHRISTIAN CHURCH

March 29 and April 2
Good Friday, Emilie Knauss

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Primary Scripture: Luke 23:39-43

QUOTES

"There are dozens of ways to deal with evil and several ways to conquer it. All of them are facets of the truth that the only ultimate way to conquer evil is to let it be smothered within a willing, living, human being. When it is absorbed there like blood in a sponge or a spear into one's heart, it loses its power and goes no further."

- Scott Peck's old priest

"The cross, standing between creation and final consummation, is not an accident. It is not something that could just as well not have happened. It is, on the contrary, the supreme instance of the manner in which God's power operates. God's final victory does not ignore human suffering but takes it up and vindicates it. Ours is not a victorious, un-crucified God, victorious like an undefeated football team. Ours is the God who achieves victory through suffering, and liberation through oppression. Ours is a God who, having known oppression, shares with the oppressed in their suffering. And it is precisely by virtue of that divine sharing that the oppressed can also share in God's victory."

-Justo González

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The events of Good Friday causes us to ponder this statement: God chose to willingly allow his life to be taken by humanity for the ultimate benefit of humanity. This is not an easy topic. What questions do you have about this?
2. Emilie shared that Jesus died to save us, not only from the powers of evil that we experience, but also from ourselves. Why does humanity need saving?
3. What habits — big or small — do you see pop up in your life that you can't get rid of? For Emilie, it's pleasing others. How much has it crippled you, and how much have you tried to stop it from doing so? Why is it so hard to stop?
4. Emilie shared how Jesus' death affects us today. With Jesus there can be a lifetime transformation of our desires, habits, and selfish tendencies. She reminded us of this phrase: "Jesus died so I don't have to _____ anymore." What would you fill this blank with? How does this, or can this, affect your daily life?
5. If you are not a believer, consider what it would look like to follow Jesus. What is stopping you? What are your questions? If you would like to follow Jesus or talk more about what that means, please email pastoralcare@dc2.me.
6. Within your household, friends, or small group, please pray for and check in on each other this week.