



CHRISTLIKENESS IN SACRIFICIAL LIVING

Luke 23:1-56, Ephesians 2:4,5

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Key Question... What are the qualities of Christ's character which we see in the Scriptures that we are called imitate?

Key Concept... Loving sacrifice for others must be a part of every Christian's life if they are to truly follow Jesus.

Key Word... "sacrifice"... To lovingly, willingly and obediently give something of significant value in our lives for the benefit of others.

Why was Jesus sacrificed on the cross?

- Satisfy the law...required sacrifice for sin
- Fulfil prophecy...promising a coming redeemer

Why was Jesus sacrificed on the cross?

- Judas betrayed Christ which led to the cross
- Jewish leadership demanded for Jesus to die
- Jewish people shouted "Crucify Jesus"
- Pilate sentenced Jesus to die
- Roman soldiers marched Jesus his death

Is there an ultimate reason why Christ was sacrificed on the cross?

- "Christ gave up his life for **our sins** to rescue us..." Galatians 1:4
- "Christ was handed over to die because of **our sins**..." Romans 4:25

Why would Jesus Christ willingly die on a cross for condemned sinners?

- "We know what real love is because Jesus **gave up his life** for us." 1 John 3:16
- "Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and **offered himself** as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God." Ephesians 5:2

How is Christ's sacrifice on the cross relevant to us on this Good Friday?

- Christ's loving sacrifice offers us a new **life**
"God has given us new life in Christ..." Ephesians 2:4,5
- Christ's loving sacrifice offer us a new **model for living**
John 13:35 "You will know they are my disciples by their love".

Personal Application

- Do I believe the Scriptures call us live in increasing Christlike ways?
- What Christlike qualities are present in my life?
- What Christlike qualities do I need to strive for more?

The greatest underlying quality for any Christlikeness is selfless love.

- In what ways does my life reflect the sacrificial love of Christ?
- In what areas of my life could I begin or improve the reflecting of Christ's sacrificial love?

Prayer

Father, I am challenged by your Holy Spirit to better reflect the likeness of Christ in my life. I hear your Spirit calling me to be more like Christ in some specific areas. I am willing to strive to be more like Christ but I ask for your help and strength in my striving. Amen!