

# ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Session 3

Why did

Jesus

die



Alpha

**WELCOME TO ALPHA – A SERIES OF INTERACTIVE SESSIONS TO DISCUSS LIFE AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN AN INFORMAL, FUN AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT.**

After each talk, there is a time for discussion with the people in your pew, during which you can ask questions, delve into different issues and find out what others think.

This is your guide, so use it however you like. Write, scribble, note, jot, or doodle. Whatever helps.

After each discussion there will be a short time of worship and prayer during which you are invited to sing and pray along with the rest of the congregation, or if you prefer simply listen and observe.

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## Why is the cross the symbol of Christianity?

**“... the Son of God...  
loved me and gave  
himself for me.”**

(GALATIANS 2:20)

### 1. THE PROBLEM

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23).

- **Pollution** of sin (Mark 7:20–23)
- **Power** of sin (John 8:34)
- **Penalty** for sin (Romans 6:23)
- **Partition** of sin (Isaiah 59:2)

### 2. THE SOLUTION

- “The self-substitution of God” (1 Peter 2:24)
- Agony of the cross (Isaiah 53:6)

### 3. THE RESULT

The cross shows:

- You are infinitely valuable to God.
  - Jesus is the supreme example of love. (John 15:13)
  - God is not aloof from suffering.
  - The powers of evil have been defeated: the resurrection wasn't the reversal of a defeat; it was the manifestation of victory.
- The **partition** has been removed (2 Corinthians 5:19)
    - Reconciliation with God and in other relationships
  - The **penalty** has been paid
    - Justified (“Just-as-if-I'd never sinned”)
  - The **power** of sin has been broken
    - “If the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” (John 8:36, NLT)
  - The **pollution** has been removed
    - “... the blood of Jesus, ... purifies us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)
    - When you are forgiven, you want to forgive.

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**RECOMMENDED READING:**

*The Cross of Christ*  
John Stott

*Why Does God Allow Suffering?*  
Nicky Gumbel

*Unreachable*  
Darrell Tunningley

*Mud, Sweat and Tears*  
Bear Grylls

*Why Jesus?*  
Nicky Gumbel

*The Hiding Place*  
Corrie Ten Boom

## We pray and give thanks for

### International

- Our Companion Diocese of Ho - Bishop Matthias

### Mission of the Month

- St Paul's VBS

### Diocese

- Our Bishop David and his wife Janet
- Retired Bishops Harold, George, William and Claude.

### Government

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
- Premier Brian Gallant
- Mayor Ken Chorley and the town council

### Deanery

- Parish of Hammond River - Rev. Michael O'Hara
- Retired Clergy - Rev. John Tremblay

### Parish

- Rev. David & Family
- Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran & Family

### The sick and the shut-ins

Raymond Bates, Don Buchanan, Bobbi-Jo Corner, Loretta Derrah, Barb Glauser, Rick Hatchette, Dawn Lent, Paul Robichaud, Lloyd Ryder, Sue Scribner, Erika Wisted

<b>July 24</b>	10:00 am Morning Prayer & Praise Alpha 4 – How can I have faith?
Music Leader	Colton Scott
Layreader	Betty Kennett
Reader	Ephesians 1: 3-7
Greeters	
A/V	Elaine Robichaud / Carter Scott
Sunday School	Heather Crossman / Krista W
Chancel	Shirley Stanley / Betty Mitham
Counters	Glenna Geer / Myra Stites