



# Inspire

## Hope for the World

### The Hope of the Cross

As believers we look at the cross and see the symbol of our faith. How can a symbol of pain, suffering and death be so hopeful? It is what Jesus did by dying on the cross, that brings us hope. 1 Peter 2:24 says, ***He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."***

To say Jesus bore our sins, means He carried our sins on Himself. He was without sin, but He placed the heaviness, the burden of our sin upon Himself. He carried the load so we wouldn't have to. The Bible says that ***the wages of sin is death*** (Romans 6:23). We deserved to die for our sins. The verse goes on to say ***but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord***. Jesus paid the price for our sins. He bore our sins on his body on the tree. He was nailed to a cross, and suffered agony and pain, and died as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world—for my sins.

Matthew Henry writes, "...Christ, in his sufferings, stood charged with our sins (Isa 53:6)...he bore the punishment of theme, and thereby satisfied divine justice...[and] he takes away our sins, and removes them away from us, as the scapegoat did typically bear the sins of the people on his head, and then carried them quite away (Lev 16:21, 22)..."

Why did He do this? So that, having died to sins, we might live for Him! Pastor Warren Wiersbe writes, "We are identified with Christ in His suffering and death and therefore can have victory over sin." Because of Christ's death on the cross, we can be declared righteous—we are in right standing before God. We aren't righteous because of anything we have done, but because of Christ's sacrifice. Our right standing should impact how we live. We should live as one right with God. We will want to be like Jesus in all we think, say or do.

He was wounded—beaten and bloodied—and through His wounding, we are healed. All of humanity has this terminal disease of sin. But because of the Cross, He has healed us of this sin disease. Because of the cross, we no longer have to be separated from God due to our sin, but can be brought close to Him and be restored to a right relationship with Him.

### INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

**Albany, OR** is going to offer *Financial Peace University* for the women.

In **Carson City, NV** one of their members was Promoted to Glory. Her husband was devastated. However, the outpouring of support from the WM helped him in his grieving and as a result, he became a Christian and is now attending worship services on Sunday!

**Grants Pass, OR** had a fun fellowship program, "*Just Dance with the Stars*." It was great time of music, dancing, and just having fun while being silly.

**Eugene, OR** had a presentation about Medicaid. The ladies were able to ask questions about their benefits and also learned how to manage navigating the program.

**Oceanside, CA** is using *Women of the Bible* DVD series for their Bible studies.

**Portland Moore Street, OR** did a book study on *The Dream of You*, by Jo Saxton.

In **Rita, Marshall Islands** the ladies arranged to hold their Home League program at the home of a woman who has been ill for a long time and unable to come to the corps.

**San Bernardino, CA** started a Women's Tea Group at their Hospitality House, for a time of fellowship and lifting each other up.

**Santa Maria, CA** held a women's VBS where they baked bread and fellowshiped together.

**Santa Monica, CA** held GLO—Girls Lunch Out—where ladies go together for lunch after church.

Commissioner Colleen Riley—Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Colonel Donna Igleheart—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

## Cross Craft Ideas

Check out these ideas to display the hopeful symbol of the Cross this Easter Season.

### Nail and Wire Cross:

<https://www.favecrafts.com/Green-Crafting/Rusty-Nail-and-Wire-Cross>

### Decoupaged Easter Cross:

<https://www.favecrafts.com/Easter/Decoupaged-Easter-Cross>

### Cross Décor with Burlap:

<https://www.thecountrychiccottage.net/cross-decor/>

### Wood Cross Box Décor :

<https://leapoffaithcrafting.com/diy-easter-cross-decoration/>



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"by his wounds you have been healed."

NIV

1 PETER 2:24

## Monthly Bible Trivia Question—The Characters of Easter

1. Who betrayed Jesus? John 18:2
2. Who counseled the people to kill Jesus? John 18:14
3. Who denied knowing Jesus ? John 18:27
4. Who wanted to see Jesus do a miracle? Luke 23:8
5. Who was released instead of Jesus? John 18:40
6. Who found no fault in Jesus ? John 19:6
7. Who carried the cross for Jesus ? Mark 15:21
8. Who cast lots for Jesus' clothes? John 19:23-24
9. Who stood at the foot of the cross? Matthew 27:55-56, Mark 15:40-41, John 19:25-27
10. When Jesus died, who declare he was the truly the Son of God? Mark 15:37-39
11. Who buried Jesus? Luke 23:50-53, John 19:38-42
12. Who were the first people to visit the tomb on Easter Sunday? Matthew 28:1-2, Mark 16:1
13. Who told the 2 Marys to tell the disciples to go to Galilee and there they would see Jesus? Matthew 28:9-10
14. Who ran to the tomb to see if the women had spoken the truth about being alive? Luke 24:12
15. Who said unless he could see and touch Jesus, he could not believe the news of His resurrection? John 20:25