

# Journey CHURCH

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## Leader Guide Session 4

### Watch

Play the video segment for session four. As you and your group watch, use the following outline to record any thoughts or concepts that stand out to you.

The very first thing ever eaten on the moon was bread and wine point-ing back to Jesus' sacrifice 2,000 years prior. The first meal ever eaten on the moon was the Last Supper - not an end, but a beginning.

Jesus willingly and voluntarily went with God's plan. We can be tempted to think of Christ's sacrifice as though it were something he did to Mission Accomplished appease an angry God. But the Bible is clear that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit all together worked hard and all together suffered so that we could be reunited.

When Jesus went to the cross to die for our sins, there was a go from the Father, a go from the Son, and a go from the Holy Spirit. He chose to die for you. He even chose it during his earthly ministry.

Jesus acknowledged there was no other way for us to be saved except by his death. He was willing to pick up the cup and drink it and take the mission the Father had for him. Great power comes when we don't say, "My will be done," but like Jesus, we humbly say to the Father, "Your will be done."

Jesus died on someone else's cross. And not just Barabbas's cross. Jesus died on Levi's cross. He died on your cross. He took what should have been your punishment for sin upon himself. He went to the cross as your substitute.

The word excruciating comes from the Latin and literally means "of the cross." It was a fate so bad a word had to be invented to describe it. But that wasn't the worst of it. On top of the physical, emotional, and spiritual toll it would take on someone, Jesus was also completely alone on the cross.

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Martin Luther once called the crucifixion the "great exchange," where Jesus was treated like we should be so that we could be treated like he deserves to be. It is staggeringly, absurdly, incomprehensively beyond understanding what Jesus faced on that day. And yet he chose to stay.

The church isn't meant to be a religious experience-a too-righteous-/or-my-shirt club where we polish our halos, amen ourselves on how right we are in our theology, and only welcome those who have attained a level of enlightenment like us. It's meant to be messier than that. More broken than that.

## Discuss

1. Have you ever awaited a final go signal from others, as Neil and Buzz did, before you could complete your mission? What was the hardest part of the waiting?
2. Read Isaiah 53:4-6. What does this say about the kind of suffering that awaited Jesus on the cross? What did Jesus understand he would have to endure in order to fulfill God's mission?
3. Jesus said, "I lay down my life-only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord" (John 10:17-18). We might be tempted to think that Jesus had to die on the cross to appease God, but what does this verse imply? How does it impact you to know that Jesus willingly chose to die so you could be saved?
4. Jesus told his followers, "I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me" (John 6:38). What are some ways that you demonstrate that you are submitting to God's will? What does this look like in your life?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-29. What is the significance of partaking in the Lord's Supper? What should our attitude be when we take communion?
6. Jesus commanded us, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15). We are all called to carry on his mission of announcing God's plan of salvation to a world that is lost and hurting. How are you currently being an ambassador for his mercy and his agent of rescue for those who feel alienated and forsaken?