

**Sermon Series:**  
**“Giving Your Life Away”**  
*He Gave His Life as a Ransom*

**Oct. 11,2009**  
**John 19:16b-30**

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## **Time in the Word**

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### **Read & Observe**

Take a moment to read through John 19:16-30. Some stories we have read so often, they become too familiar and lose their impact. As you read this account of the crucifixion, what about it most tugs at your heart?

### **Answer**

1. Begin by reading Mark 10:45
  - a. Often people say that Jesus’ primary reason for coming into this world was to be an example of how to live. According to Jesus, why did He say He came?
  - b. “To give His life a ransom for many”—write down at least 3 implications of what it means that Jesus was a ransom.
2. Take a moment to compare the 4 account of the Passion (Matthew 27:32-50, Mark 15:21-37, Luke 23:26-46, & John 19:16-30).
  - a. Crucifixion was a horrible way to die—it was slow and agonizing. Why do you think the gospel writers spent so little focus on the pain of the cross (as opposed to Mel Gibson in the Passion)?
  - b. The utterances of Christ on the cross are often called “the seven last words”. Which of them strikes you the hardest? Why?
3. If physical pain wasn’t the central issue on the cross, what was?
  - a. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. According to the apostle Paul, what actually happened on that cross? Why would this have been so horrifying for the Son of God?
  - b. Both Matthew and Mark record that Jesus in a very dark moment on the cross yelled out “My God, my God, why have you abandoned Me?” Had the Father truly abandoned Jesus? Isn’t separation from God a part of what hell is all about?
  - c. In John, Jesus’ last words are “it is finished”. Take some time to do a little googling about this phrase. What did Jesus mean—what was finished?
  - d. Jesus’ final words to him are revealing. What is significant about the faith of a foreigner being so central in the closing line?



## **Time for the Heart**

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As we look at how Jesus gave His life away, one of things that comes into sharp focus is that He held nothing back (He gave His all). In your own life it is unlikely that you will be called to give up your life physically for another. But what would “giving your life

away” look like for you? What kind of sacrifice would be exceptionally hard, yet you could possibly be called to do just that?



## **Time for my World**

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It is much harder thinking through how a church “gives its life away” on the level did. What would it look like for a local body of believers to give their lives in an intensely sacrificial manner like Jesus did? Would it be a missions thing, a giving money to the poor thing, ????????????