

GOOD FRIDAY CELEBRATION

Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Scripture Readings: John 18:17-30 & 1 John 4:7-21
Singing: 284:1, 2, 5 -- 266 – 293- 399:12

Intro: John's remarkable change is the witness to the power of God's love

God calls your attention to His love He made known in most stunning way

I. You can *only* understand God's love by what He did and does

II. Yet you can *better* understand God's love by considering **what** He loved

A. God made known His love towards **us**

1. The 'us' is not about the *number* (elect) but the *kind* (sinners)

B. God's greatness of love is expounded by two phrases about *us*

1. vs. 9: *that we might live through Him*

2. vs. 10: *not that we love God*

III. You can *even more* understand God's love by **Whom** He sent **where**

A. God tells you **how** He loved us (John 3:16-20)

1. He sent His beloved, only Son into world

2. He sent Him with a command: *Go and love sinners that hate Me*

B. Though He loved each neighbor as no one ever loved, they still killed Him!

IV. However, you can see God's love deepest when you see Jesus on the cross

A. The cross death of Jesus is the greatest act of God's love: 1 John 4:10

B. Yet the cross is more: *It is His greatest display of wisdom* (Ps. 85:10)

1. He gave His Son as *the mercy seat* (propitiation) (Romans 3:25; 4:5)

Two main takeaways:

A. God is not only 'ready' but God is 'able' to pardon you!

B. Let us imitate our Elder Brother (1 John 4:11)

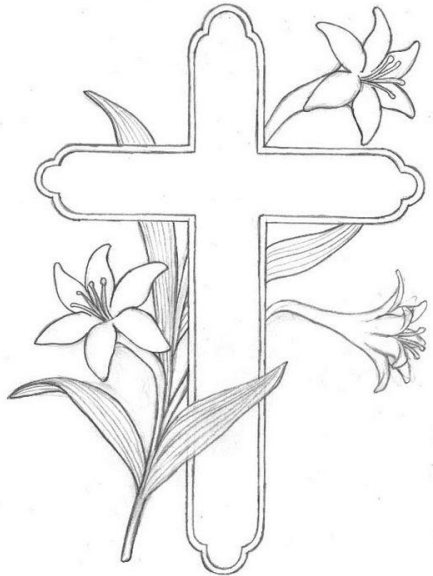
Dear children,

Today we celebrate the worst and the best day in the world's history.

1. See if you can finish the Bible text that speak about it. *For _____ so _____ the world that He _____ His _____.*
2. How do we know that God loved so greatly? John answered in 1 John 4:9. *In this was manifested (made known) the _____ of _____ toward _____, Because _____ sent His _____ Son _____ that we might _____ Him.*
3. How do you know if someone loves you?



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4. How did God show His love to us?

5. Why did Jesus **have to die** on the cross? (The picture of the cross with the flowers give you a clue. The flowers are 'peace-flowers!')