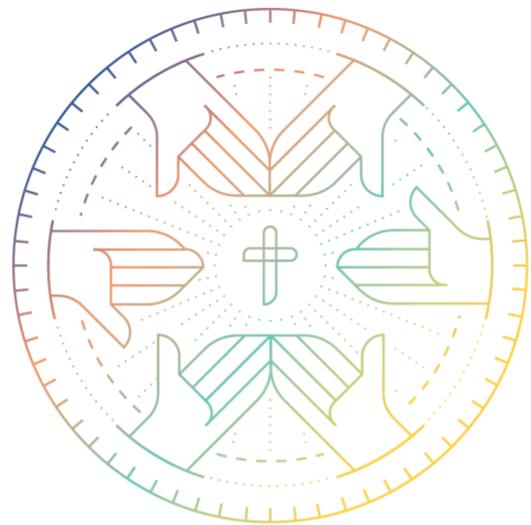


Group Life.

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ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

In the study today we'll look at how the disciple, John, took Mary, Jesus' mother, into his own home. Can you recall a time when you offered unusual hospitality to someone, or when someone offered it to you, and how did that impact your life?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What most stood out to you from Pastor David's message?

Did you spend time last week practicing any of the "**DAILY THIS WEEK's**"? If so, share your experience with the group.

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Matthew 6:26, 1 Peter 5:7 and Psalm 23:1-4. Describe how we can understand God's care for us, based on these Scriptures.

How do you **KNOW** God cares for you? What would you add to the list of ways you can know God cares for you? Here's the three David mentioned:

1. Physical reaction
2. Overwhelming emotion
3. Heavenly peace

Read John 19:16b-27.

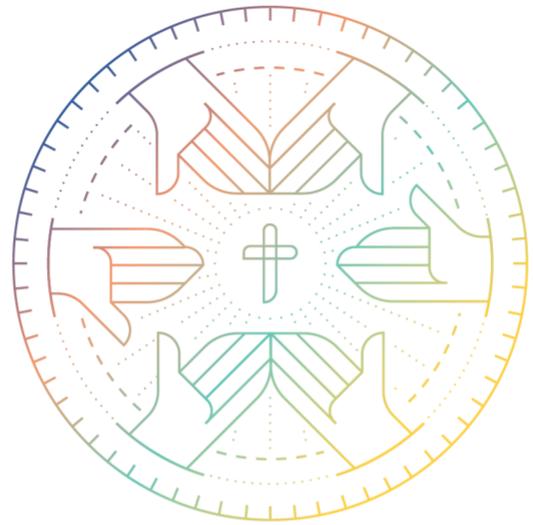
Why did John specifically mention (v.25) the women who were close to the cross?

What does this passage imply regarding the women and perhaps about the other disciples?

In what ways did **Jesus celebrate the role of women** and their equality to men in his ministry?

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Read Hebrews 4:14-16. In light of the seamless tunic and the divine connection to Jesus as the great High Priest, in what ways do we experience Jesus as our own High Priest?

APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

Since we know that Jesus cares, there must be reasons why things in our life may not change. David mentioned three:

1. Because the problem may be ours- a hard heart.
 - **How does a hard heart keep God from working in our life?**
2. Just because our circumstances don't change, doesn't mean Jesus doesn't care.
 - **What are some reasons why circumstances may not change?**
3. Because God wants to draw us closer.
 - **How can we intentionally cooperate with God's desire to draw us closer?**

Discuss David's statement that "**suffering produces the best in us; comfort often produces the worst in us.**" How do you understand this statement? Has it proven true in your own life?

DAILY THIS WEEK (Choose one of the following)

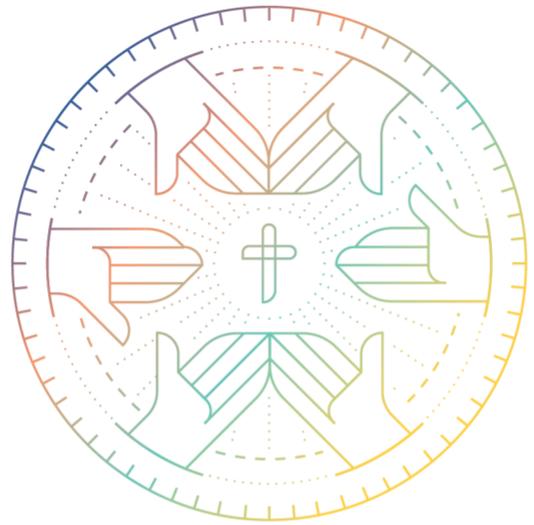
Actively look for ways each day to show your loving care for someone around you. It could be through simple gestures like checking in on someone, offering a listening ear, or helping out in practical ways. Take a moment to jot down a note with what you did, how it was received and how it made you feel. Share that with your group next week.

Each time this week you become aware of God's care for your life, pause and give Him thanks. Take note of how often that happens. Share the experience with your group next week.

Reflect on the significance of Jesus celebrating the value, significance, and role of women. Consider how you can honor and support the women in your life, whether it's through affirmation, empowerment, or recognizing their contributions. Share your experience next week.

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PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Our Savior and Lord Jesus, thank you for all we can learn from Jesus' words from the cross. Every word held meaning, so teach us how to understand them and apply these truths to our life. Today and this week, give us a heightened awareness of those around us who need our care. Help us to see them and listen to their hearts. May we respond as you would, Lord Jesus. Amen.