



## WORD

*<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.*

**ISAIAH 53:4,5**

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God is our loving and gracious Father, but He is also holy. His holiness requires Him to be a God of justice who hates sin. The punishment for sin is death (Romans 6:23). In the Old Testament, an animal acted as a sacrificial substitute to cleanse man from sin. In the New Testament, Jesus became the sacrificial substitute for our sins and He has justified us before the Father. He is our perfect substitute. In this lesson, we will look at what Jesus did for us on the cross, and what He has given us in return.

## 1 His sorrow for our peace

*Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows . . .*

**ISAIAH 53:4**

Jesus was our substitute who took upon Himself the bitter consequences of our sins, which is grief, sorrow, and eternity apart from God. Instead, He gave us peace and restores us to a relationship of peace with God. How have you known this peace since Jesus became your Lord and Savior?

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## 2 His suffering for our sin

*But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities . . . ISAIAH 53:5*

Jesus never committed a sin personally, but He was punished without pity for our sins, as if Jesus had been sin in itself (2 Corinthians 5:21). If we put our trust in Jesus, we don't need to fear the condemnation of God. What kind of sufferings did Jesus experience in our place?

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## 3 His wounds for our healing

*. . . and with his wounds we are healed. ISAIAH 53:5*

Jesus suffered floggings and beatings, followed by an agonizing death on the cross. He did all this to take upon Himself the sins of the world. Because Jesus was severely punished in our place, we can receive His healing and wholeness. Why did Jesus voluntarily sacrifice Himself for us? Why did He die for us on the cross?

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## APPLICATION

- Knowing what He did for you on the cross, how do you think you should respond and live? Is He your Lord and Savior, and are you willing to follow Him all the days of your life?
- In what area of your life do you need peace, and how can you get this from God? Look for a Bible verse that speaks into your situation and meditate on it for the whole week.
- How has God changed your life, taking your sorrow and giving you joy? Who can you encourage about this in the coming week, so others can know God more?

## PRAYER

- With a partner, pray to God and thank Him for sending Jesus to die in your place.
- Pray for God's comfort and peace in your life, fully trusting that He understands your suffering and He can turn your sorrow into joy.
- Ask God for opportunities to preach the gospel and the boldness to tell others about what He has done in your life.



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