



The Passion



SHARE

your highs and lows

Break into pairs.
Listen carefully and record your partner's thoughts in the space provided. Then return to small group and share your friend's highs and lows.

MY HIGH THIS WEEK

MY LOW THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S HIGH THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S LOW THIS WEEK



READ

and highlight the theme verse in your Bible

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

John 3:17



TALK

about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows

Choose from the options below to enrich your Talk Time. Invite group members to take turns leading one or more of the following:

IMAGES

1. Choose either the cover photo, cartoon or painting by Dr. He Qi (back page).
2. Where are you in this work of art?
3. How might the art and the theme verse relate to each other?
4. How might the art relate to your highs and lows?

ROLE PLAY

Assign roles and take turns acting out the following:

1. A neighbor who was once a member of your church tells you he quit believing in God the day his only son died in a car accident. What do you say?
2. Another neighbor tells you he quit going to church after getting drunk and killing a teenager in a car accident. He feels guilty and condemned. What do you say?

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. Would you risk injury to free a trapped and wounded dog? What if the dog was growling and biting you, hindering you from the rescue? How does this relate to Jesus' sacrifice for us?
2. Imagine you have been arrested, tried and condemned to death for a crime. Your best friend offers to confess to the crime and take your place on death row. Do you let this person die for you? Why or why not?
3. What would motivate someone to die for someone else? What does this have to do with Jesus?

QUOTATIONS

Choose a quotation (right column) and share your thoughts and questions about it.

Jesus Christ is tough as nails and he's dying for you to meet him.

Bumper Sticker

When Christ calls people, he bids them to come and die.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

It is said no one can behold God's face and live. I always thought this meant no one could see his splendor and live. Perhaps it means no one can see his sorrow and survive... or perhaps his sorrow is his splendor.

Nicholas Wolterstorff

Santa Claus never died for anybody.

Craig Wilson

Never give your life to anything that can be accomplished in a lifetime.

Rich Melheim



Write a definition...

CONDEMN

HISTORY

PASSION

SACRIFICE

SIN



The Crucifixion by Dr. He Qi (www.heqigallery.com)



PRAY
for one another's
highs and lows

Gather in a circle. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you in your lows. Pray for your friend's highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus' name.

Prayers for Highs

Prayers for Lows



BLESS
one another

Trace the sign of the cross on one another's foreheads or palms.

**REMEMBER
1 THING**

The central point of the story of Jesus: the healer becomes the victim. Evil appears to have won. God is dead. Even the sun refuses to shine. It is all over. Or is it?

