



# WORDS TO LIVE BY

## Week 1

### BREAKING THE ICE

- What was something good you ate this week?
- Who was a blessing in your life this past week?

### MAIN CONTENT

Our Dickson Campus Pastor, James Savage, started off our “Words to Live By” series as we enter into the weeks leading up to Easter. More specifically, he led us into a deeper dive into the last words of Jesus before He was crucified. Savage started with reminding us that death is inevitable, and it clarifies what is important.

Author and Dr. Ira Byock, who has spent 35 years in medicine, 25 of which in hospice care writes, “Ask any man who is being wheeled into transplant surgery or any woman facing chemotherapy for the third time what is on his or her mind and the answer will always involve the people they love. Always... The specter of death reveals our relationships to be our most precious possession.”

Pastor James used this example to show us that relationships are the most important. The people we have encountered on this earth and the relationships we make are of the utmost importance. We see this played out in Jesus’ last moments on the cross before He was resurrected.

1. What relationships are you most grateful for?
2. Do you feel like these people know how much you value them?

Pastor James brought us back to the final day of Jesus’ life on Earth. We saw in John 19 that Jesus brings together His friends to share a meal. Jesus knew all that was going to happen that day, yet He did not run from the pain that was soon to come. He spent time with His friends, and not only that, He washed their feet. He reminded His disciples how much He cared for them, and then He showed them with His actions.

John 13:12-17 says, “When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them.

“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

Jesus used this time before His arrest to be an example of how we should love, and then He demonstrates the greatest act of love on the cross.

3. How do you show the people around you that you love them?
4. What is a way that the Lord has shown you love recently?

Now what would cause Jesus to humble Himself to wash His disciples’ feet, or to an even greater extent, to die on the cross? Love. Pastor James reminded us that over and over, Jesus showed His radical love for His people in His Words and actions. In John 3:16, it reminds us “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only son..” It was because of love that God sent His son to die so that we could live in freedom. It was because of love that Jesus wanted to heal the people He created. He loved His disciples, the men and the women He healed, and even the Roman soldiers that killed Him. He loved them all, equally. He loves us with that same unconditional love. It is a love that does not make complete sense. Jesus does not care what you have done in your past, or the mistakes you have made. Jesus knows we are human and we are flawed and in need of a Savior. He loves us more than we could ever imagine. He wants us to show that love to those around us because we have received this love from the Father.

5. What if we approached our life like Jesus, and lived with the end in mind?
6. How can we make what will matter on our last day, matter today?

## CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for your unconditional love. Thank you for the way that you love us each individually and intentionally. You are a good Father. Thank you that we can trust you and what you say. I pray over our relationships this week, that you will bless them! Help us to show love the way that you do. Let you be our example of how to serve and love those around us. We love you Jesus! Amen!

## ACTION STEP

- Spend intentional time showing love to the people you care about this week!
- Put your love to action year round by checking out our Local Good opportunities you can serve with: [crosspoint.tv/local](https://crosspoint.tv/local)