

**Small Group Bible Study Questions. Sermon by Pastor John. March 8'26:  
"Behold Your Mother" John 19:25-27**

*From Brendan: "These questions are a guide. You do not have to use every question. Knowing your group, go over these questions and ask God what questions you should focus on. May God bless and guide your discussions!"*

- Welcome everyone and open with prayer. **Optional:** take communion together!

**Icebreaker Question:**

- "If you had to eat only one type of international cuisine for the rest of your life, what would it be?"

**Follow-up from last week:**

- Did you pray a lament? Sit/pray with someone who is suffering? Anchor yourself in scripture/Psalm 22? How did that go?

**Read John 19:25-27 (What stands out to you?)**

1. In John 19, several people remain standing near Jesus while others flee. Why do you think John highlights those who stayed? What does it mean today to remain near Jesus when we don't fully understand what he is doing?
2. Even in the agony of the cross, Jesus notices his mother and the beloved disciple and speaks new words of relationship. What does this reveal about the heart and priorities of Jesus?
3. Jesus forms a new relationship between Mary and the beloved disciple. How does this moment help us understand what the church is meant to be?
  - See Galatians 3:26-28. Ephesians 2:14-22.
4. The sermon described the church as a *centered set*—a community gathered around Christ rather than defined primarily by boundaries. How does this idea change the way we think about belonging in the church?
  - Centered Set: Jesus is the centre so are people moving towards or away from Jesus? The Emphasis is people moving towards Christ and growing in discipleship
  - Bounded Set: Is someone inside our outside the boundary? For Example: doctrinal statement, behavioural rules, membership status, denominational identity.
    - Would you say NSAC is a centred or bounded set? Why?

**Life Application:**

5. If the cross forms a family and shapes the way we live together, what might it look like this week for you to practice self-giving love, forgiveness, or humility within the household of God? Do it!

