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## Message

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What's so good about Good Friday? Jesus was tortured, flogged, and ceremonially mocked with a coronation of thorns, beaten to an inch of His life, spat upon and then crucified. Why does the ultimate rescue of humankind require God becoming one of us to suffer on our behalf?

### God Becomes Man – Philippians 2:5-11

1. Jesus in His pre-earthly existence with God and as God in Heaven.
2. The incarnation – Jesus taking the form of a human being.
3. Jesus being glorified – exalted by God the Father and acknowledged by all creation as “Lord.”

Jesus, though He was fully God did not consider that being God was something to be exploited or used for His personal advantage. But instead Jesus chose to empty Himself, taking the form of a servant, and humble Himself to the point of death, even death on a cross.

*He Came for Our Need / He Came Because We are Worth It / He Came as a Servant*

On Good Friday Jesus opens our eyes so we can see that Jesus who was in every way God, did not consider being God as something to be used for His advantage, but considered it something to be used for ours.

Have you seen God as He really is? On Good Friday we are not presented with something that we already know about ourselves, but with something we would never expect about God – sacrificing and suffering for our benefit.

*Dear Jesus,*

*I see that you suffered for me. I confess I need you because I have made my own way and rejected you and hurt others. I thank you that in your great love you saw me as worthy to die for. Forgive me of my sins, and fill me with your Holy Spirit. I want to follow you now, bringing healing where there is hurt. Help me to love like you do, to serve as you did – not for my advantage but for yours and others. In Jesus' name I ask this. Amen.*