

## **STUDY GUIDE: “WHAT’S IN A NAME?” “Christian and Cross”**

### **Discussion Starters**

1. Is the cross a positive or negative symbol to you?
2. What do you think is the modern equivalent of the cross?

### **Study**

3. To begin this study, read each passage below and note what it tells us about the meaning of the term “cross” to the Christian.

Matthew 16:24-27

1 Corinthians 1:18

Galatians 3:13

Galatians 6:14

Philippians 3:18

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

--“life” (Matthew 16:25)—

--“lose” (Matthew 16:25)—

--“soul” (Matthew 16:26)—

--“word” (1 Corinthians 1:18)—

--“power” (1 Corinthians 1:18)—

--“redeemed” (Galatians 3:13)—

--“enemies” (Philippians 3:18)—

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5. What was a “cross”? What was it used for? How was it viewed by people?
  
6. How did the cross become a positive symbol?
  
7. What did Jesus mean when he referred to someone “taking up his cross”?
  
8. What is the power of the cross today?

**Taking It Home**

9. What does taking up your cross look like in your life? Be as specific as possible.
  
10. Why would someone (you?) want to take up a cross instead of living the life you have in the world?
  
11. Who in your life is an enemy of the cross? How do you respond to them?