



**Read:** The roar of the raucous crowd cannot be ignored. They want him gone, out of their sight. Read [John 19:12-15](#) quietly aloud. Read it again, listening to the sounds, seeing the characters in this drama that will change all of history.

The Psalmist would perhaps have been stunned at the hardness of hearts, given his grasp of God's love. Read [Psalm 36:5-10](#) slowly. As you read it a second time, look for a word or phrase to ponder more deeply.

**Think:** Review the passage again and ponder the word or phrase that stands out to you. What do you see of God's nature in this? What do you see about his heart for people? For you? Turn this word or phrase over and over in your mind—gently, like a fragile treasure.

**Pray:** Ask the Holy Spirit to impart God's message for you from this passage. What is he inviting you to consider? To do? To know? Open your heart and ask him to write his love deeply within you.

**Rest:** Sit quietly with what you have heard or sensed or experienced. Let all other thoughts go, except the reality of God's presence here and now, with you. Let him love you. If it helps, play worship music in the background. If your mind gets distracted, gently whisper "I receive your love" or "I love you, Lord."

And unfortunately, it is certain that I am also one of that crowd that doesn't give much thought to what happened. I, who am even able to write these things about the Passion while remaining impassive, whereas it should only be written about in tears.

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