

Read: The moment is almost here. The place called Golgotha reeks of death, shame, and destruction. Read Matthew 27:33-34 and lift your eyes to look down from this hill of death. See the lost, the broken, the world...yourself.

Read <u>Colossians 1:18-22</u> with the background of Golgotha in your mind. See what is being purchased here. Read it again and choose a word or phrase to sit with for this time.

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."

I want to recover the truth that Jesus was not crucified on an altar between two candlesticks, but on a garbage heap at a crossroads of the world...where soldiers gambled and cynics talked smut.

George McCloud