**Home Group One to One Series
 Mary and John with Jesus: John 19 :23-37**

**Introduction**Discuss how significant has your birth family been in your life? If it had been possible what would you have changed? Today’s study is all about family.
**Read John 19:23-37**

1. Describe the scene as depicted in verses 23-26. Who is present and who is missing from this scene?
2. How would you feel if you were one of the women standing there before the cross?
3. There are two groups mentioned, the soldiers and the women. How do these two groups differ? Both groups stand before the cross but are very different. What does this say to us about society today?
4. What risks did the women take by identifying with Jesus as he was crucified?
5. Ten of the disciples were missing from this scene. How was it possible that the women and John were able to be present? (See 1 John 4 v18)
6. We are told from Matthew and Mark that Mary’s sister is Salome, mother of James and John. She had previously been chastised by Jesus. (Mt 20v22) What does her presence at the cross tell us about her discipleship? How may this apply to us?
7. Describe the suffering of Jesus on the cross.
8. In His suffering Jesus looked to the needs of his mother. Read verse 26 again. Is it possible for us to look to the needs of others while we are suffering or having a difficult/challenging time?
9. When Jesus addresses Mary as ‘woman’ it is a compassionate term. (though it doesn’t translate well into English). His words unite Mary and John into a mother and son relationship. Verses26-27. How does John accept this responsibility? What excuses might he have made? This calling didn’t come out of the blue note he was already standing beside her. How may we apply this to our own lives if we desire to be given more responsibility by God?
10. The timing of this one to one is significant as at the cross a new family is born-a spiritual family born through the blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus had already spoken of a new family-read Mark 3 31-35.
11. As Christians we are relatives through the blood of Jesus. How can we develop good relationships within our spiritual family? Mark 3 v35.
12. How can our spiritual family support us especially when our earthly family is unable to do so?
13. Jesus created a new family of believers through his death and resurrection. This should mean that no one in our family feels unloved, alone, unsupported etc. What can you do to make a difference? **Prayer Points**
* *Pray for all Christians who risk their lives to follow Christ.*
* *Pray that the church in our country will be bold and speak up for justice and righteousness.*
* *Pray that St. George’s Christian family will be characterised by our love kindness and compassion.*
* *Pray that we may immerse ourselves in the word of God and consequently do his will so that good relationship will blossom.*