



*TELEIOS International School of Ministry (TEISM) is a division (DBA)
of Upper Room Fellowship Ministry (URFM).*

The CROSS – The Mystery of Suffering that only a few Embraces it

Learning Objectives:

1. Defining the Cross Biblically

- Discovering that the cross, the most profound symbol in Christianity, is not just about sacrifice and suffering, but also about spiritual transformation.
- Gaining a deeper understanding of the cross, not only as a symbol of Christianity, but as a mysterious work of God, not only for salvation (1 Corinthians 1:18), but also for sanctification (1 Corinthians 2:2).

2. The Cross, Discipleship, and Spiritual Formation

- Understanding that discipleship without the cross is a contradiction. When Jesus calls disciples, He invites them to lose their lives for His sake (Luke 9:23).
- Understanding that true discipleship is not just a concept, but a personal journey that involves daily bearing the cross. (See Matthew 14:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 14:27).

3. The Cross is Central to Christianity

- Learning that the cross is the core of Christian identity. Gaining a deeper level of the fundamental truth expressed in Galatians 2:20 *“I have been crucified with Christ...”* and 1 Corinthians 2:2 *“For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”*

4. The Cross and Suffering are part of Christian Living

- Explaining that embracing the cross and accepting the Suffering as integral aspects of following Jesus. He is our supreme example (Philippians 3:10).
- Developing a deeper understanding of suffering as part of the everyday Christian life and character development. (See Romans 5:3–5, James 1:2–4, 1 Peter 1:6–9, 5:10). Discipleship and the cross are intimately connected.