

at HOME

April 8th, 2026 | Vol. 2 | Issue 4 ————— *a weekly newsletter from Asbury Church*

Dear Friends,

There is a dimension of Jesus' life that we rarely pause long enough to contemplate.

He was raised in the home of a carpenter.

"Is this not the carpenter's son?" Matthew 13:55

Before the crowds, before the miracles, before the cross – there was a workshop. A place where wood was measured, shaped, lifted and joined.

Where the air carried the scent of timber and the steady rhythm of hammer against nail marked with the passing of ordinary days.

And as a child, Jesus listened.

He watched. He learned the grain of the wood, the resistance of it, the weight of it in His hands.

This was not incidental to His story. It was formative.

Because the material that framed His upbringing ... would one day frame His death.

The cross was not an abstract idea to Jesus. It was not distant or symbolic.

It was wood.



Familiar, worked, and weight bearing wood.

The kind that leaves splinters in the hands and strain in the shoulders.

Roman crucifixion was not designed merely to end life, but to display suffering. The crossbeam – the patibulum – likely weighed between 75 and 125 pounds, laid across torn

shoulders and carried through public streets.

Iron spikes roughly 5 to 7 inches in length were driven with force through wrists and feet in unrefined timber – securing the body

in a position of prolonged agony.

Jesus would not have needed these details explained to Him.

He understood weight. He understood wood. He understood what it meant to fasten one thing to another with nails.

And this is what quietly astonishes the soul:

Nothing about the cross was foreign to Jesus.

Every lifted beam in Joseph's workshop ... every measured length ... every strike of iron into wood ... was lived vocabulary He would one day speak fluently with His own body.

As a child, He encountered wood as a tool of creation. As a man, He would carry it as the instrument of His surrender.

And still – He did not turn away.

Not from the knowledge, not from the cost, not from the path set before Him.

He moved toward it with clarity, not confusion – with intention, not resignation.

Because the mystery of God, the very substance of suffering would be transformed into the architecture of salvation.

The cross-constructed of ordinary wood became the axis upon which divine love was most fully revealed.

Hebrews 12:2 declares, “For the joy set before Him, he endured the cross.”

Joy – not in suffering itself, but in what it would accomplish.

Which means this:

Through every ordinary day in a carpenter’s home, through every quiet moment of formation, through every early understanding of weight and wood ...

Jesus already saw beyond the cross.

He saw redemption. He saw restoration. He saw you.

He knew precisely what it would cost Him, and with full knowledge, He chose you.

LET’S PRAY

Father, we stand in quiet awe of a love so deliberate, so knowing, so complete. Thank you for Jesus – not only for His sacrifice, but for the life that prepared Him to carry it.

Thank You that nothing is accidental, that every moment, every detail, every step was held with your divine purpose.

Help us to see more clearly – to recognize Your presence not only in the extraordinary but in the ordinary rhythms of our lives.

Give us a heart that trusts You with deeper understanding, and spirits that respond with reverence and surrender.

Teach us to follow Jesus with intention, to carry what You have entrusted to us with faith, and to walk forward with the same steady courage and love.

And as we remember the cross, anchor us again in truth – that we are fully seen, deeply known, and eternally loved.

Thank You, we worship You, and we trust You.

In the matchless name of Jesus Christ, our soon coming King we pray, Amen.

With Love,

Kate Green, the Asbury Staff, and your Asbury Church Family.



asbury church

better together.

Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube icons

Sunday Worship -- 8 and 10:30am
Watch Anytime by scanning this QR Code with your phone!

We will be praying for you!

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