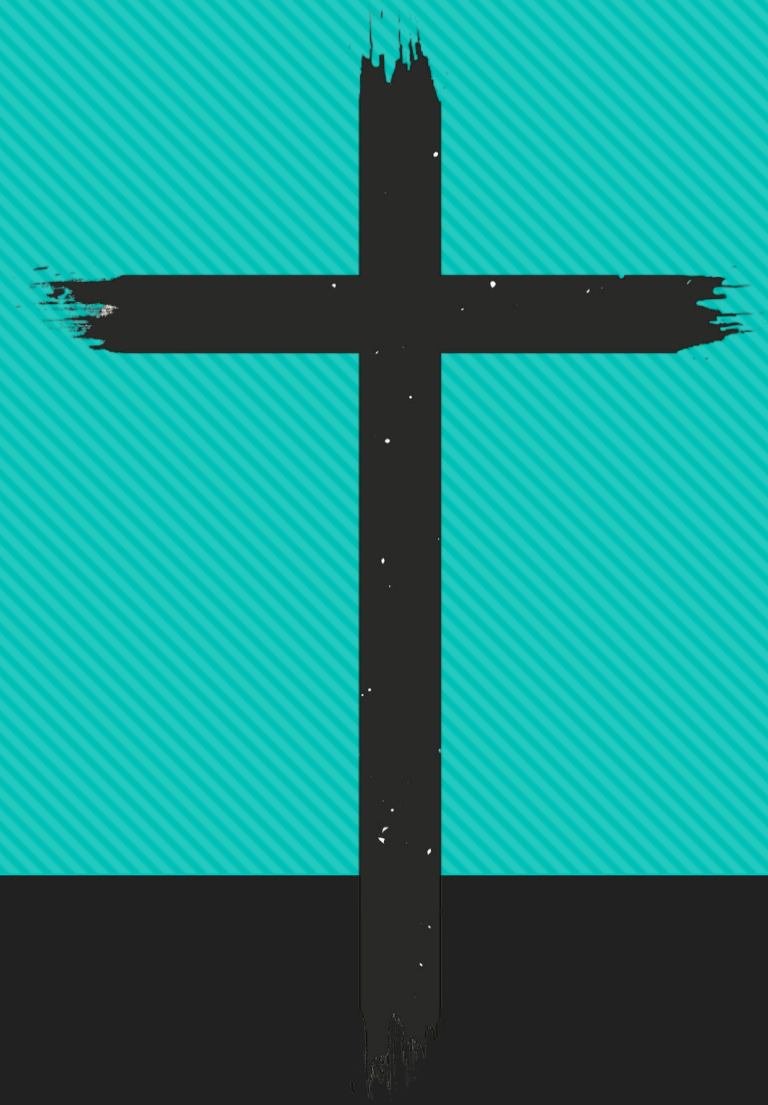


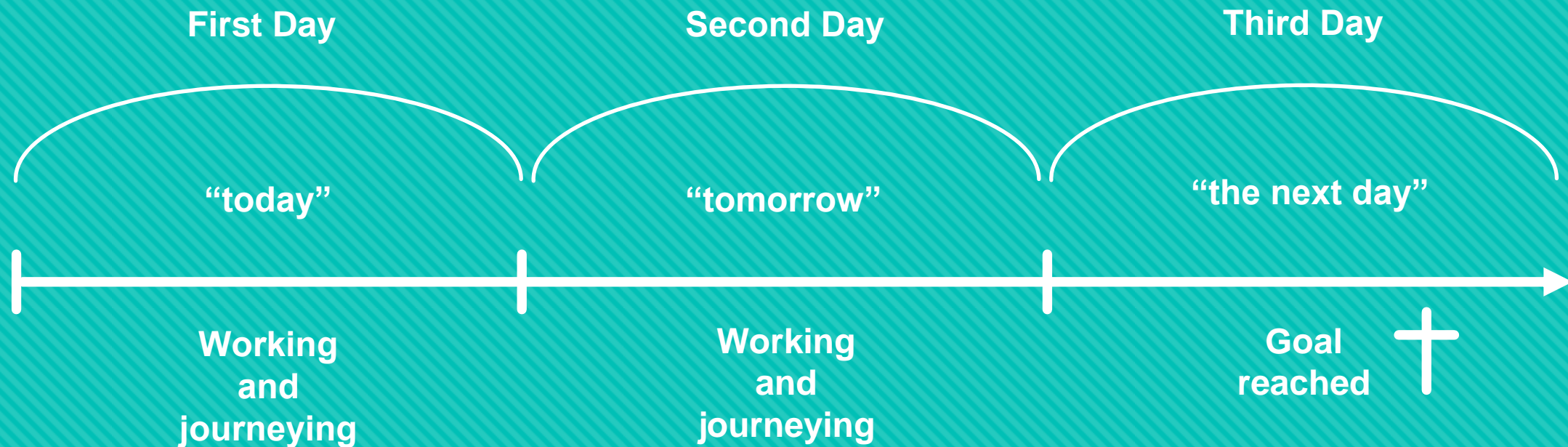
The Cross-Shaped Life

And how to live it.



At that very time some Pharisees approached, saying to Him, “Go away and leave this place, because Herod wants to kill You.” And He said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I am casting out demons and performing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day I reach My goal. Nevertheless I must go on My journey today and tomorrow and the next day; for it cannot be that a prophet would perish outside Jerusalem.

Luke 13:31-34 (NASB)



The three days in Mark 13:31-34

Numbers in the Bible... The ancient Hebrews:

1. Tended to avoid using fractions. They round up or down to mean the same thing.
2. Gave certain numbers special spiritual importance.
3. Prioritised the spiritual / symbolic meaning of numbers over the chronological meaning.

Numbers in the Bible \neq Modern, scientific numbers

The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day of their journey, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

Gen 22:3-4 (NLT)

“on the third day”

=

“in three days”

=

“after the third day”

=

“three days and three nights”

=

“three and a half days”

Equivalent Expressions

“on the third day”

=

“in three days”

=

“after the third day”

=

“three days and three nights”

=

“three and a half days”

All of these expressions
point to salvation
i.e. the **CROSS**

Equivalent Expressions

Seventh

Day/Month/Year

The number of God's creative power

The Third

Day/Month/Year

The number of salvation



The "half seven"

The relationship between the numbers 7 and 3 in the Bible

on the third day

I reach My goal



It is finished

τελέω teleō

τελέω teleō



The three days in Mark 13:31-34

How long was the ministry of Jesus?

3 ½ years?

Where do we get the idea of a 3 ½ year ministry from?
Daniel 9... tradition...

1 year? 2 years? 3 years? 3 ½ years?

How long was the ministry of Jesus? – The Biblical Evidence

1. **Matthew/Mark/Luke** – Unclear. All the events of Jesus' ministry could notionally fit into 1 year.
2. **John** seems to mention **4 visits** of Jesus to Jerusalem for Passovers during his ministry (1. at the start of his ministry; 2. in the middle; and 3. again in the middle; and 4. at the end). This would mean a ministry of three years.
3. **John** – Jesus' ministry starts on Passover and ends on Passover, therefore Jesus' ministry must have lasted (close to) whole (not half) years. **Therefore, 3, not 3 ½.**
5. Where do we get the idea of a 3 ½ year ministry from? From a literalistic, modern reading of **Daniel 9**...

1 year? 2 years? 3 years? 3 ½ years?



The three days in Mark 13:31-34

The Cross-Shaped Life

Behold, I am casting out demons and performing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day I reach My goal. Nevertheless I must go on My journey today and tomorrow and the next day...

Luke 13:31-34 (NASB)

The Cross-Shaped Life

Behold, I am casting out demons and performing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day **I reach My goal**. Nevertheless I must go on My journey today and tomorrow and the next day...



Has a goal

Luke 13:31-34 (NASB)

The Cross-Shaped Life - Has a Goal (1/2)

It's not that I've already reached the goal or have already completed the course. But I run to win that which Jesus Christ has already won for me... This is what I do: I don't look back, I lengthen my stride, and I run straight toward the goal to win the prize that God's heavenly call offers in Christ Jesus.

Phil 3:12-14 (God's Word)

The Cross-Shaped Life - Has a Goal (2/2)

Then the people who have God's approval will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom.

Matthew 13:43 (God's Word)

The Cross-Shaped Life

Gets to work



Behold, I am **casting out demons and performing healings** today and tomorrow, and on the third day **I reach My goal**. Nevertheless I must go on My journey today and tomorrow and the next day...

Has a goal

The Cross-Shaped Life

- Gets to Work (1/2)

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might

Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NIV)

The Cross-Shaped Life - Gets to Work (2/2)

...you will be my witnesses...

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

The Cross-Shaped Life

Gets to work

Counts the days

Behold, I am **casting out demons and performing healings** today and tomorrow, and on the third day I reach **My goal**. Nevertheless I must go on My journey today and tomorrow and the next day...

Has a goal

The Cross-Shaped Life - Numbers the Days

Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Ps 90:12 (NIV)

The Cross-Shaped Life - Enjoys the Journey (1/2)

**I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full
...you will be filled with joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!**

John 10:10 (NIV); John 15:11 (NLT)

The Cross-Shaped Life

- Enjoys the Journey (2/2)

...John's two disciples... followed Jesus. Jesus looked around and saw them following, "What do you want?" he asked them. They replied... "Teacher... where are you staying?" "Come and see," he said.

The Cross-Shaped Life

Gets to work

Counts the days

Behold, I am **casting out demons and performing healings** today and tomorrow, and on the third day I reach **My goal**. Nevertheless I must **go on My journey** today and tomorrow and the next day...

Enjoys the journey

Has a goal

Luke 13:31-34 (NASB)

Has a goal

**Counts
the days**

**Gets to
work**

Enjoys the journey

The Cross-Shaped Life...

