

May I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
*Galatians 6:14*

### 1. They were disillusioned with Jesus.

Listen to Me and remember what I say. The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of His enemies." But they didn't know what He meant.  
*Luke 9:44 – 45*

"We had hoped He was the Messiah Who had come to rescue Israel."  
*Luke 24:21*

"Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."  
*Jesus in John 16:33*

### 2. They were distressed by the world's evil.

Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived with a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders.  
*Mark 14:43*

We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.  
*2 Corinthians 10:3 – 4*

This world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.  
*1 John 2:17*

Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.  
*1 Corinthians 1:24 – 25*

The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.  
*1 Corinthians 1:18*

### 3. They were disappointed in themselves.

On the way, Jesus told them, "All of you will desert Me. For the Scriptures say, 'God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there." Peter said to Him, "Even if everyone else deserts You, I never will." Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny three times that you even know Me." "No!" Peter declared emphatically. "Even if I have to die with You, I will never deny You!" And all the others vowed the same.  
*Mark 14:27 – 31*

All His disciples deserted Him and ran away.  
*Mark 14:50*

He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on Him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Yet it was our weaknesses He carried; it was our sorrows that weighed Him down. And we thought His troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for His own sins! But He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. <sup>6</sup>All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on Him the sins of us all.

*Isaiah 53:3 – 6*

#### **4. The resurrection of Jesus changed everything.**

He was shown to be the Son of God when He was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Romans 1:4*

#### **5. The purpose of the cross changed everything.**

Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

*Hebrews 9:22*

You know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom He paid was not mere gold or silver. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose Him as your ransom long before the world began.

*1 Peter 1:18 – 20*

Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are from the Holy Bible, **New Living Translation**, Second Edition Copyright © 1996, 2004, Tyndale Charitable Trust. All rights reserved.