

Last Words from the Cross: Behold

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John 19:25-27

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Reflection & Discussion Questions

Jesus was always using familial references – reframing what we think we know about family
Family and being well related to others was God's design from the very beginning.

*What is your idea of family? Of *your* family?

*What places do you see God's design for family in the Bible?

Jesus's third words at the cross were human and relational

Read and discuss John 19:25-27 (ESV)

²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

*What do you make of who was at the cross and who wasn't?

*What would it feel like to be John here? Mary?

*How do Jesus's words here resonate with you? How are these words good news for you?

Jesus asks John and Mary to 'behold' one another

Behold means to fix the eyes upon, to see with attention, to observe with care.

*How is Jesus redefining family for these two?

*Do you see a new beginning for the ways we relate to each other in these words?

*How is he leaving a model for us?

*What is a relationship that has turned familial to you – how do you behold one another?

Jesus asks us to accept this revolutionary change in our relationships with our fellow believers and as we engage with outsiders

He asks that the relationship net be cast out further. (Matthew 9:12-13 Message)

*Who do you need to BEHOLD – to see with care and concern right now?

*Where are you uncomfortable casting your relationship net?

*What relationship might Jesus be redefining for you?

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Visual reflection (Visio Divina)* [Woman, Behold Thy Son](#) by James Tissot

Song for reflection [Ubi Caritas](#) by Audrey Assad