

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

John 18:28-19:16

DISCUSSION 1: Jesus, King of the Jews

1. Why do the Jewish leaders take Jesus to Pilate?
2. How does God use Pilate to announce that Jesus is the prophesied King that was to come? What were the Jews looking for in the promised Messiah King? (Gen. 49:10, I Chron. 17:11-14, Psalm 2, Is. 11:1-10)
3. How does Jesus respond to Pilate's question concerning his kingship? What do we learn about Jesus and his mission? How is Jesus kingdom different from an earthly kingdom?
4. How would you answer Pilate's question, "What is truth?" How do you think the general public would answer that question? Why is this such an important question to get right?
5. What are the implications for us when we say we serve King Jesus? How does the Kingdom of God influence your daily decisions and actions? In what ways do we build our own kingdom?

DISCUSSION 2: The Innocent Condemned, The Guilty Go Free

1. What is significant about Pilate repeating three times that he finds no guilt in Jesus? Why did Pilate deliver Jesus to be beaten before he delivered him to be crucified even though he believed him to be innocent? Why did the people want Jesus dead?
2. How does the releasing of Barabbas and the crucifixion of Jesus reflect the gospel message?
3. What do you do with your guilt when you recognize your sin? How does Jesus free us from our guilt and fear?
4. While Pilate had the authority to crucify Jesus, how does Jesus display he has ultimate authority over every human authority? What is both ironic and tragic about the chief priest declaring, "We have no king but Caesar?"
5. Why is it good for us that Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth? How do we submit to Jesus authority today?
6. Why does the timing of this trial (during Passover) matter? What connections does John want us to make?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean that Jesus is the King? What is Jesus in charge of?
2. Why did Jesus our King have to die even though he did nothing wrong?
3. Why is it good news that innocent Jesus died in place of guilty sinners like us?