

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Luke 23:1-25

Ice Breaker: What is an evidence of grace you have seen this week in your life?

Ice Breaker: What is your favorite painting or work of art?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Begin by recapping where we are at in Luke. What happened in Luke 22?
2. **Read Luke 23:1-5:** Who is Pilate? What was Pilate's role in the Roman Empire? What was the goal of the Roman Empire in relation to the Jewish people?
3. What were the three initial charges that the Jewish leaders brought against Jesus? What was the fourth? Where any of them true? In what way? Why does this matter?
4. What is Pilate's declaration of Jesus at this stage? Did Pilate act upon this declaration? What did he decide to do?
5. How does Pilate's willingness to send Jesus away mirror those in our day who send Jesus away from themselves? Is there someone in your life who has chosen to send Jesus away? How might we help reintroduce them to Jesus?
6. **Read Luke 23:6-12:** Who is Herod? What do we know of him from the rest of the Gospels? Why did Pilate send Jesus to him? What was Herod's reaction to receiving Jesus?
7. Throughout Jesus' integration before Herod, verse 9 tells us Jesus remained silent. Why did he do this? What might it have meant for Herod?
8. How might Herod's eagerness to see Jesus but his unwillingness to believe in Jesus reflect our own lives? How do we "eagerly hear" God's word, yet fail to act upon or obey it?
9. Take some time to consider how you might go about implementing what you read in your Bible, learned at a Bible study, or heard from the sermon on Sunday. How does God's truth shape your conversations or your post-church lunches? What about your drives home or your evening chat with your spouse?
10. **Read Luke 23:18-25:** What does Pilate ultimately decide to do with Jesus and why? Who is released in his place?
11. What picture of our own release from sin does Luke give us in this passage? Do you think of yourself as being as guilty as this man before God? What is the glorious hope that we have in Jesus?

Application: Spend time praying for one another. Talk about ways to bring the truths you are learning about into your daily life. Don't let Satan snatch away these opportunities.