

**Message Notes**  
**"The King's Trial"**  
**Mark 15:1-20**  
**Jesus: The Gospel of Mark, Part 40**  
**March 11, 2012**



Players in the Court Drama

1. The Religious Leaders Mark 15.1, Romans 2.21-24  
≥ misrepresentation and misguiding
  
2. Pontius Pilate Mark 15.2-5, 12, 15; John 19.10; Matthew 27.24; Psalm 15  
≥ The irony of authority and not doing the right thing
  
3. The Crowd Mark 15.12-15; Matthew 27.25  
≥ emotional and carried along
  
4. The Soldiers Mark 15.16-20; Ephesians 4.17-19,31-32  
≥ disregarding and discounting
  
5. Barabbas Mark 15.6-11  
≥ guilty but another took his bullet

**Growth Group Questions**  
**"The King's Trial"**  
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1. Share an experience (personal or other) or a memorable story of a court trial.
  
2. Read our teaching passage, Mark 15:1-20. Compare the parallel gospels of the trial account. Read Matthew 27:11-31; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16. As you read, investigate the lives of those involved in this trial.
  
3. We see a group of religious leaders (called "the Jews" in the Gospel of John) who are darkened in their understanding of the scripture so that all they wanted was to kill Jesus. How did they get here? Read Zechariah 10:1-3. We may not call ourselves "leaders" but whether we like it or not, we are influencing people around us by our words and actions. How are you "stirring" them? What are some baby steps for you to apply Colossians 3:17 this week?
  
4. We all experience the pressure to fit in, succeed and be accepted. Describe a time when you felt pressured to meet the world's expectations. How did you handle the situation?
  
5. What advice do these scriptures provide for times when we are under pressure?
  - a. Exodus 23:2
  - b. Proverbs 1:10,15
  - c. Proverbs 8:10-11
  - d. 1 Peter 2:11-12
  - e. What advice do you have?
  
6. Barabbas was a picture of one who's been set free. What areas of our lives do we need to experience this? Pray for one another and continue to uphold each other.