

Applying It In My LifeGroup time - 20 minutes

1. In this passage, Jesus says, "My kingdom is not of this world." What implications does this statement have for our priorities and actions? How is God's kingdom present in today's world? How is God's kingdom also a future place and time?

2. Jesus offered no defense in any of His trials. What can we learn from Jesus' response to this mistreatment and false accusation? How do people today similarly talk about or accuse Jesus? How can Jesus' attitude and behavior in His arrest and trials be a model for you in your circumstances?

3. As Pilate exclaimed in John 19:5, "Here is the man!" we clearly see Jesus as our living, loving, bruised and bleeding God. How does seeing Jesus in this way impact how you view His sacrifice on the cross? How does it contribute to our understanding of God's love and care when we are in the midst of our own suffering?

Prayer TimeGroup time - 15 minutes

Give thanks to God that Jesus endured betrayal, mocking, false accusation, violence, and self-seeking people on your behalf. Give thanks to God that despite the horrors of those days He was at work reconciling and redeeming all of us who are guilty of sin, because all of us require a savior. Ask God to give you a deep sense of gratitude and awe for the work of Jesus on the cross.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so that in future weeks you can see where God is answering your prayers.

RISE

Rising Through Rejection

Jesus Brought to Pilate

John 18:28-29

- The Romans found KEEPING law and order in Israel nearly impossible

Pilate Questions Jesus

John 18:30 – John 19:16

- The main charges against Jesus were POLITICAL and not religious.

- Pilate's questions are more a CONFESSION than a cross-examination.

- Jesus was a DIFFERENT kind of King.

- Pilate did not release Jesus because of what it might have COST him.

- The closer we get to the cross, the more CLEARLY we see who people really are.

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

1 Corinthians 1:18

Sunday, March 6, 2016

South Shores Church

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Pastor Ty Guy

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GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of March 7-11, 2016

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. When have you experienced a circumstance that left you with the sinking feeling that things were definitely not going to turn out as you hoped or assumed they would? How did you respond to what happened? What did you learn about yourself and God from that circumstance?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God's Word.....Group time - 40 minutes

Read John 18:28 – 19:16 (In preparation to answer questions)

1. Jewish law required trials involving the death sentence to occur during the day. The Sanhedrin probably met at daybreak, reached their verdict, and sent Jesus on immediately to Pilate. What dynamics do you see working in this transfer of Jesus from the Jewish leaders to Pilate? What motivated the Jewish leaders? What were they trying to avoid? What were they trying to gain?

2. In this passage, what do we learn about Pilate and his role in Judea at the time of Jesus? How was Pilate caught between the demands of the Jews, his own feelings regarding Jesus, and his responsibilities to Caesar?
3. Describe Pilate's thinking at the Roman trial of Jesus. Write below the four questions Pilate asked of Jesus during his time with Him. How were Pilate's questions of Jesus more a confession than a cross-examination? How was Pilate's attitude towards Jesus similar in any way to the things people today question about who Jesus is?
4. In this passage, what impressions do you have of the chief priests priorities? Which parts of God's Law were most important to them and which parts were less important? When it appeared that Pilate was going to release Jesus, what trump card did the Jews play? Why could they not accept Jesus' release?
5. Describe what Jesus said during His trial before Pilate about His kingdom, His mission, and His power. What impressions do you have of Jesus' attitude towards this trial from His words and behavior in the passage?