

SERMON OUTLINE

In Mark 15:21-39 we find 6 details surrounding the final hours of Jesus' life.

- I. Jesus was served by Simon (vs. 21-22).
- II. Jesus refused to numb His cup of suffering (v. 23).
- III. Jesus was crucified.
 - A. His nails driven (vs. 24a)
 - B. His garments divided (v. 24b).
 - C. His hour delineated (v. 25).
 - D. His charge displayed (v. 26).
 - E. "He was numbered with the transgressors" (v. 27).
- IV. Jesus was mocked.
 - A. By the crowds (vs. 29-30).
 - B. By the chief priests & scribes (v. 31-32a).
 - C. By the robbers (v. 32b).
- V. Jesus was forsaken.
 - A. A darkened sky (v. 33).
 - B. A misunderstood cry (vs. 34-36).
- VI. Jesus died.
 - A. With a tortured cry (v. 37).
 - B. With a torn curtain (v. 38).
 - C. With a true confession (v. 39).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, June 26, 2016
15:16-41

Passage: Mark

Memory Passage: Mark 15:37-39

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 15:16-41.** A battalion at full strength would comprise 600 men. What does this reveal about Pilate's concern over crucifying Jesus?

(b) Explain why the purple robe and crown of thorns were intended to mock Jesus.

(c) James R. Edwards writes of vs. 16-20: "Even in rebellion against God humanity still bears witness to God!" (James R. Edwards, *The Gospel According to Mark*, PNTC (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002), 465). Explain why this statement is true.

(d) Why do you think the soldiers mocked Jesus in this way?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 16:16-41.** Usually sons were identified by their fathers. Why do you think Simon was identified by his sons?

(b) The cross Simon carried would have been the crossbar, weighing 30-40 pounds. Imagine yourself as Simon: What would you have said? How would you have felt? Embarrassed? Fearful? Angry? What would you have thought of Jesus?

(c) What was the purpose of offering Jesus wine mixed with myrrh, and why did He refuse it?

(d) How would history have been changed if Jesus had exercised His divine power and "come down from the cross?"

(e) Do you think the chief priests & scribes would have believed in Jesus (v. 32) if they saw Jesus do this? Why or why not?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 15:16-41.** Why does God darken the sky for three hours (v. 33)?

(b) After 6 hours on the cross (3rd hour = 9 AM and 6th hour = 3 PM) Jesus cries out quoting Psalm 22:1. Why did God the Father forsake His Son? Is Jesus portraying less confidence in God now than He did after praying in the garden? Explain.

(c) Why did the passersby think Jesus called for Elijah, and why did they wonder if Elijah would "come to take him down?"

(d) Write a paragraph describing the emotions you would have felt if you were one of the women in vs. 41-42 as Jesus died.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Mark 15:16-41.** What is the significance of the temple's curtain being torn completely in two from top to bottom (see Hebrews 9:1-12, 24, & 10:19-20 for a bit of help)?

(b) What was it about the way Jesus "breathed his last" that caused the centurion's profession?

(c) **Read Psalm 69 & Isaiah 53.** What specific prophecies from these books are directly fulfilled in the crucifixion of Christ?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Mark 15:16-45 & Psalm 22.** Read Psalm 22 with the mocking, crucifixion, and death of Christ in mind. What parts of Psalm 22 prefigured Christ's death?

(b) Psalm 22 is comprised of 2 distinct sections: 1-18 & 19-31. When Jesus quotes v. 1, he most likely intends us to understand the entire Psalm. Explain the difference between the two sections, and why the 2nd 1/2 of the Psalm would have brought comfort and encouragement to Jesus even as He hung on a cross.

(c) Why do vs. 19-31 bring comfort and encouragement to you.

DATE: June 26, 2016

PASSAGE: Mark 15:16-41

Suffering & Death