

"FRIDAY, THE HARD WAY: THE SUFFERING CONSEQUENCE"
STRAIGHT OUTTA JERUSALEM: THE KING COMES (PART 3)

EASTER 2025 SERMON SERIES AT DEL REY CHURCH
Sermon Text: The Gospel of Luke 22:39-46, 23:32-49

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TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY GROUP REFLECTION

1. How do we, as followers of Jesus, respond to suffering and trials? In what ways does Christ's suffering on Good Friday give us hope and strength during difficult times?
2. Read Luke 22:39-46. What does Jesus' prayer in the garden reveal about His humanity and His obedience? What is "the cup" Jesus refers to? How does the Old Testament help us understand this image (see Is.51:17; Jer. 25:15)? How does this moment show the cost of our salvation? How can we follow Jesus' example when we are called to surrender to God?
3. In Luke 23, Jesus promises a criminal, "Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." Discuss how this thief on the cross is such a powerful picture of grace? What does this passage teach us about salvation—especially in light of God's sovereignty in election?
4. Read together Luke 23:44-49 and discuss the significance of the veil of the temple being torn in two. What was the purpose of the veil in the temple? What does its tearing symbolize (see Hebrews 10:19-22)? How does this moment represent the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan?
5. Read Matthew 27:27-31. Why do you think the soldiers mocked Jesus as the "King of the Jews" (vs. 29)? How is this ironic, and what does it reveal about their misunderstanding of Jesus' identity? What can we learn from Jesus' response (or lack thereof) to the humiliation and physical abuse He endured? How does His example show us how to handle mistreatment for His sake? In what ways can we honor Jesus as King in our own lives, even when the world mocks or rejects Him?
6. Read Matthew 27:33-44. What do the taunts from the religious leaders, the soldiers, and the passersby (vs. 39-44) reveal about the spiritual blindness of those around Jesus? How does this remind us of how people often respond to Jesus today? Why is it significant that Jesus, despite the intense suffering, remained focused on His mission to save humanity? How can we maintain focus on God's will even in our own struggles?
7. Jesus' death on the cross was both a physical and spiritual suffering. How do you respond to the truth that Jesus bore God's wrath for our sins on our behalf? What does Good Friday teach us about God's love and justice? How can we live in a way that reflects our understanding of the sacrifice Jesus made for us? In light of Jesus' sacrifice, what are some specific ways we can live a life of gratitude and devotion to Him?