



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of *May 5, 2024*

Sermon Text: Luke 23:32-38

32 Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33 And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. 35 And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine 37 and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” 38 There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

Discussion Questions

1. Why did Luke (and the other gospel writers) describe Jesus' crucifixion so concisely? Why do you think he didn't color it in at length, and with vivid and drawn out details? In what ways does this approach impact you personally, in your understanding of what happened?
2. In our passage, Jesus prays just the one line. What does this tell you about His heart? What does this tell you about the purpose of the cross? How should this impact the way that we each live our lives when we encounter people who are difficult?
3. Jesus describes the people as those who - 'know not what they do.' In what ways does ignorance compound the wickedness of the people? Where in your own life have you seen this same reality? In your life prior to salvation? In your life, even after becoming a believer?
4. We see in our text the heart of the people as well - as the people stand by passively watching, and the rulers hurl scathing remarks, and the soldiers cast lots for Jesus' clothing. Do you think Jesus was shocked by these actions? Do these actions change His heart for the people? How should we respond when we see Christianity and Christians being mistreated today?
5. So much of what happened to Jesus had been prophesied up to a thousand years prior. How does God's sovereignty help you to understand the cross? His heart? How does God's sovereignty help you to understand some of the things that you have been through in your own life? Give an example.