

The Gospel of John: That You May Believe

The Lamb is Slain

John 19:16b-42 (page 755)

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Jesus Christ was c r u c i f i e d (John 19:17-27)

Jesus Christ was d e a d (John 19:28-37)

Jesus Christ was b u r i e d (John 19:38-42)

Growth Group Sermon Study Helps

John 19:16b-42 (Week Thirty-two)

(Note: This guide is to help *facilitate* discussion with your Growth Group. Use it as a *RESOURCE* for the group in discovering and applying the truths of God's Word. There may be questions you *do not want to use* and there may be instances where the group *chooses to focus on a particular point, verse or truth*. This guide is to assist the group in growing in their relationship with Christ and the Scriptures, thus, it is not necessary to complete all of the points in the discussion guide...use this with flexibility and not as a rigid task list to get through. God's richest blessing upon you all.)

Intro:

It is perhaps 9 am on Friday and Jesus has been turned over to the Jewish leaders by Pilate who then give him over to the Roman soldiers for His march to Golgotha. Since last night, Jesus has been betrayed, bound, interrogated, slapped, mocked, tried, scourged within an inch of His life, and finally, condemned to death. He is now on His way to the Cross - the climax of His purpose for coming to the earth - by noon, He will be hanging on the Cross. Crucifixion was reserved for the basest criminals and slaves - Roman citizens were not crucified and even the Gentiles considered this form of execution an unspeakable disgrace. John has carefully chosen what He says about this event - it is very brief and much of what he says is unique to his gospel as he omits much of what the other gospel writers record. Because of this, it is more than reasonable to assume that everything John records is significant and worthy of our utmost attention.

Discussion Questions

Was there anything said on Sunday that got your attention, a particular point, or that you have a question about?

Compare John 19:7 to Luke 9:23 and 14:27. What is Jesus teaching any who want to follow Him? Discuss.

Pilate worded the charge against Jesus as he did in all three of the major languages of the empire (vs 19-22) Why did Pilate do this? What was the Jews response? What purpose did God have for the message? Discuss.

What is the significance of Jesus' cry from the Cross "*It is finished!*"? (v 30, cf 17:4)

What evidence does John give that Jesus really died? Why is that so important? Why is it still important today? Discuss.

What does it mean to you that Jesus "*gave up His spirit*"? (v 30)

Jesus death on the Passover was no coincidence. Read Exodus 12 - what parallels can you identify between the Passover requirements and Jesus' death? Discuss.

Read Psalm 22...what details are fulfilled at Jesus crucifixion? Identify and discuss.

Why is John so careful to note scripture being fulfilled? How is that significant? What does it imply about the Bible? About God? (v 18 - Ps 22:16; v 24 - Ps 22:18; vs 33 & 36 Ex 12:46, Num 9:12; Ps 34:20; vs 34 & 37 - Zech 12:10)

Read Heb 2:14-15; 7:27; 1 Pet 2:24-25 - according to these scriptures, what is the result of Jesus' death on the Cross? How does that impact your life? Explain.

Taking it to the streets....

How can Christ's death make a significant difference in one's life? Have you shared that truth with anyone lately? What difference does it make in your life?

The disciples were nowhere to be found at the crucifixion.

Additionally, both Joseph of Arimethea and Nicodemus were "secret" about their faith in Jesus. When it comes to publicly identifying with Jesus, under what circumstances are you tempted to respond in the same manner? Explain.