



The Cross: A Place of Confession and Confidence - Mark 15:33-41
Pastor David Robinson
April 5, 2020

DISCUSSION SHEET

1. What memories or stories come to mind when you think about wearing or needing glasses?

Sermon Discussion:

1. Pastor David used the phrase: “the clarity of the cross”. What did he mean by that?
2. Jesus’ cry in v.34 uses the language of Psalm 22. Read it in full, then discuss what you think Jesus’ reasons were for quoting it.
3. Why did the soldiers think Jesus was calling for Elijah? And why would they offer him wine vinegar?
4. What was the purpose of the temple curtain? How would you explain the significance of its tearing in v.39? Why top to bottom? (Include Hebrews 10:19-22 in your explanation.)
5. The centurion drew his conclusions about Jesus’ identity from his observations of the way he died. What did he see?

Practical Application:

1. If someone asked: “How do I know when I can see the good news clearly?” How would you answer them?
2. Why is it important that we understand our sinfulness and recognize Jesus as our substitute? (See Habakkuk 1:13, 1 Peter 2:24, and Romans 5:8.)
3. Share how and why the cross can be a place of confidence, rather than just a place of pain and tragic injustice.
4. How can the way someone dies impact others? In what different ways might that apply in our current COVID-19 situation?
5. Discuss why Mark includes the details of the women in vv.40-41.

When the centurion, who was standing opposite him, saw the way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God.”
(Mark 15:39)



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Personal Reflection:

1. Have you ever felt abandoned by God? How did you respond? What helped you during that time? How does Jesus’ behaviour impact you in this passage?
2. Meditate on Hebrews 10:19-25 and how the preacher applies the death of Jesus. He urges his listeners/readers to act in four certain ways. Which one is the most challenging for you?
3. How could you pray Psalm 23 in your own situation today, especially verses 4 and 6?

GUIDE

1. The Discussion Sheet is intended to help us process Pastor David’s sermon and to apply it in various ways to our lives. The questions will be most beneficial when you can discuss your answers and ideas with other believers. ***The personal reflection questions are not intended for group discussion.***
2. When biblical events are familiar, we can become less sensitive to their content. Pray that God will deepen your perception and guide your thoughts as you read and study.
3. Give your best answer to each question. When appropriate, read the verses or passage again, then consider other passages as well. At times, you will want to consult a commentary or Google the answer!
4. Remember God’s Word is his chosen way to speak to us, to change us and to teach us. And he has designed this to happen in the context of community. When we cannot meet in person, we can meet in other creative ways. Consider how you can meet with others to build each other up! :)