

## RCC LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION (FACILITATOR)

### MARK CHAPTER 15

#### Discussion Starter

- What do you enjoy most about your freedom to make your own daily decisions?

#### Opening Prayer

- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer

#### Tell the Story

#### Read the Story (Mark 15:1-47)

- Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

#### Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

#### Mark 15:1-5

- What do you think it means to have strength under control?
  - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.
- Why don't you think Jesus really responded to Pilate and the accusations that were being thrown His way?

- What do you think you would have done and/or said if you were in Jesus' place?
- What do you think Jesus' lack of responsiveness should teach us today?
  - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.

#### □ Mark 15:6-15

- Why is it important to have an understanding of who Barabbas was?
  - It is important to understand who Barabbas was because it helps us to better understand the lengths to which people were willing to go to get rid of Jesus. Although every sin is equal in the sight of God, Barabbas wasn't just a thief. He wasn't just rough around the edges. He was a violent, nationalistic, and fanatical man who was a murderer. And, the people were well aware of this. Even in the midst of all this knowledge, this is how determined the people were to kill Jesus.
- Do you think that there are ever times when Jesus poses a threat to your lifestyle? How? What do you do when this happens?
  - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

#### □ Mark 15:16-32

- If someone asked you what the cross of Jesus Christ means to you, how would you respond? If someone asked you what you do with the cross of Jesus Christ, how would you respond?
  - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- How does what Paul says in Galatians 6:14 better inform us about what we are called to do with the cross of Christ as Christians?

- What Jesus did on the cross should be the core of who I am as a disciple of Jesus Christ. What the world has to offer is nothing in comparison to Jesus' completed work on the cross. This work, His work, empowers me to live as God has created me and designed me to live.

#### □ Mark 15:33-47

- When Jesus says, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me," what does this indicate about sin?
  - Jesus' crying out indicates the costliness of sin, the ugliness of sin, and the separation that sin causes between man and God.
- It's not by accident that Mark mentions the centurion and what he says and the women who followed Jesus and ministered to His needs. Why do you think Mark references both?
  - The Roman centurion and women in general were not at all highly valued in Jewish culture. The Roman centurion would have been hated and the women were considered property. Jesus' whole life had been spent on underscoring the reality that every single person had high value because of God's love for them. Not only did the cross speak to the high value of these individuals but it also emphasized the reality that all ground is level at the foot of the cross.

#### □ Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

#### □ Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Mark 16)

## RCC LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION (STUDENT)

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