

Victory By Surrender: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of October 4th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** below along with the foundational questions we ask each week.

Week 34: Mark 15:42-47

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"It was also unusual to give the corpse of a person condemned for treason to anyone but a near relative. Consequently Pilate's willingness to give Jesus' body to Joseph shows that he really did not believe that Jesus was guilty of treason (cf. vv. 14-15). This is the only place in the New Testament where someone referred to Jesus' dead body as a corpse. Mark's use of the word further stressed the reality of Jesus' death." -**Constable's Notes**

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

1. Joseph was "waiting for the kingdom of God" (Mark 15:43), yet Jesus was dead and his hope seemed buried with Him. What does Joseph's response teach us about faith when circumstances don't make sense? Where do you need to honestly acknowledge disappointment or uncertainty instead of pretending everything is okay?
2. Joseph couldn't change what had happened, but "went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body" (Mark 15:43). What do his actions show us about faithfulness when we don't know what God will do next? What is one step of obedience or faithfulness you can take this week with what God has put in front of you? Pasted markdown
3. Mary Magdalene and Mary watched Jesus be placed in the tomb, believing they were seeing the end of the story—but they didn't yet know what God would do next. How does Mark 15:46–47 challenge us to distinguish between what we know and what we assume? Where do you need to say, "I will trust God with what I cannot see" this week?