

This Week's Text: Mark 15:27-39 – Christ Atones Through the Cross

Next Week: Mark 15:40-16:8

I. The Cross Troubles (27-32)

- The Shame of the Cross Troubles the Religious (29-30)
- The Suffering of the Cross Troubles the Self-Righteous (31-32a)
- The Silence of the Cross Troubles the Rebellious (27, 32b)

II. The Cross Testifies (33-38)

- Through the Sky (33)
- Through the Scriptures (34-36, Psalm 22)
- Through the Sanctuary (37-38)
- To the Success of the Substitute

III. The Cross Transforms (39)

- Our Position
- Our Past
- Our Perspective
- Our Purpose

Corporate Reading Guide:

Read the other Gospel's accounts of Jesus death on the cross. Notice how each gospel writer focuses on different statements and actions. Why do you think Mark focuses on what he focuses on?

(Matthew 27:32-54; Luke 23:26-47; John 19:17-37).

Discussion Questions:

1. What impacted you and/or what did you learn from our study of Mark this week?
2. What impacted you and/or what did you learn about the Gospel? What did you learn about **God's** character, **Man's** sinfulness and need, **Christ's** atonement and how He meets our need, or God's call on us to **Respond**?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 1:21-23. In your own heart, or in the hearts of people you've shared the Gospel with – why is the Cross a stumbling block and folly?
4. Read Mark 15:27-32. Which aspect of the cross (shame, suffering, or silence) most bothers your own sinful soul – and why?
5. Read Mark 15:33-38. Which part of God's testimony on the cross is most impactful to you and why?
6. Read Mark 15:38 and Hebrews 9:1-14 & 10:19-23. How does it damage our souls to dwell on our past guilt and shame? What does it reveal about our faith in Christ's successful substitute to cleanse our conscience?
7. Read Mark 15:39. Which aspect of the cross's transforming work are you most thankful for, and why? (Position, past, perspective, purpose).