



## SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 27:27-61” on November 4 & 7, 2021

### CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 27:1-26 affect your week?

### DISCOVER: MATTHEW 27:27-61

- What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?
- How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
- Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

**MATTHEW 27:27-61** This passage provides a very condensed account of one great moment in all of history - Jesus’ being mocked and led away to be crucified, resulting in His dying on the cross and being placed in a tomb. All of this took place in just a few hours’ time, but what happened in those hours not only fulfilled prophecy again and again, it had eternal impact on the lives of every human being who would ever have the opportunity to know Jesus! We have much to learn from this passage and the parallel accounts of the other gospel writers in Mark 15:16-47, Luke 23:26-56 and John 19:17-41.

**IN THE MOMENT:** Imagine the people who were seeing all that happened from the time Jesus walked toward the cross until He gave up His last breath...

- What do you suppose Simon the Cyrene, a visitor there for the Passover, went home and told his family about his experience carrying the cross for Jesus, seeing how He was treated and watching Him die....and later rise again!
- How does Simon’s action encourage or impact you as you take up His cross each day?
- Some of the observers that day mocked and insulted Jesus that day....others wept as they watched Him on His walk to the cross. Imagine His walk right now in your own mind – for what would you be weeping as you saw Jesus walk by? Jesus in His Divinity knew exactly what He was about to suffer; yet He CHOSE to lay down His life, enduring horrible agony as a human for the salvation of all mankind for all time. Can you wrap your mind around that?
- How do you respond to that realization?
- Jesus in His Divinity knew exactly what He was about to suffer; yet He CHOSE to lay down His life, enduring horrible agony as a human for the salvation of all mankind for all time. See I Peter 2:24...What feelings do you imagine Jesus had as he cried, “Eloi, Eloi” in the ninth hour? Can you wrap your mind around that? How do you respond to knowing that by His wounds you are healed?

**THE CURTAIN, THE DARKNESS, THE EARTHQUAKE, THE PEOPLE RISING:** There was **NO** way people could not have known that a spiritual power – God - was at work upon seeing all that happened the very moment Jesus took His last breath!

- What is the significance of the curtain in the temple being torn, from top to bottom? Consider why the curtain was there at all, why its being torn top to bottom mattered, what it separated, and what that meant for the Jewish worshippers. How does knowing the significance help shape your own personal spiritual journey?
- See Hebrews 10:19-25 What do those scriptures mean to you in your personal worship and as a part of the body of Christ at CU Church?



## SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

### THE CROSS: WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE, AND WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?

- Jesus could have stepped right off that cross and shown His power and authority. Why did He choose to follow through as He did, and what does that teach us?
- What does Jesus' suffering on the cross show us? How is suffering doable if you know the end? How do you find joy in suffering with hope? When you are suffering, what value do you place upon eternal outcomes?
- How would you describe the purpose of the cross to a new believer?

### RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

### PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.