

Mark 15:1-15

1 And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. **2** And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." **3** And the chief priests accused him of many things. **4** And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." **5** But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

6 Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. **7** And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. **8** And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. **9** And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" **10** For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. **11** But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. **12** And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" **13** And they cried out again, "Crucify him." **14** And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." **15** So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Discussion/Journal Questions

How is everyone doing with the Resolve 2021 goals? How is your time in prayer, Bible, and Christian community going?

Have you heard of the phrase "cancel culture"? What do you think of when you hear that phrase?

Read Mark 15:1-15. Put yourself in the position of the Jewish leaders. Why do you think they wanted to "cancel" Jesus?

Now put yourself in Pilate's position. What do you imagine he was thinking in this moment?

Read Matthew 27:23-24. Why did Pilate wash his hands?

Have you ever washed your hands of a person? Why?

Read Luke 10:30-37. Why did the religious people in this story wash their hands of the man in trouble? Have we been guilty of the same attitude?

Read Matthew 25:41-45. What does this parable teach us about how we treat others?

Who in your life is God calling you to love even when it is messy and even when you want to wash your hands of the situation? What is something specific you can do to show love to this person? How can your group help you?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?