



**Title: Simply Jesus!: Pilates Court**

**Scripture: John 18:28-40**

**Date: 11262017**

**Bible Version: ESV**

**BOTTOM LINE: We can't save ourselves. There is only one person's truth and love that can set us free: It's simply Jesus!**

**Vs. 28**

**Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters.** -Jesus was being taken from the religious power base to the political power base.

Pontius Pilate was the Roman Governor of Judea from AD 26-36 and was known for being cruel and offensive to the Jewish people.

**“So that they would not be defiled....”**-The Jewish religious leaders didn't want to be ceremonially unclean, but they didn't have any problem lying and bringing false witnesses against Jesus.

**Vs. 29**

**“What accusation do you bring against this man?”**-Pilate was most likely annoyed by their request, and simply wants to know the bottom line to their accusation.

**Vs. 30-31**

**“If this man were not doing evil...”**-They don't directly answer his question but let Pilate know they wouldn't be here if there was an issue.

**“Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.”**-Pilate doesn't want anything to do with their religious problems and he doesn't want to simply be a puppet in their plan.

**“It’s not lawful for us to put anyone to death.”**-Under Roman rule the Jews were no longer allowed to execute anyone they found guilty, they needed Pilate’s consent.

### **Vs. 32**

**This was to fulfill the word the Jesus had spoken...**-We can see old testament prophecies of Christ’s death in Psalms 22 and Isaiah 53.

Several times in the New Testament Jesus predicts his own death, he was to be lifted up. (John 3:14, John 12:32-33)

### **Vs. 33**

**“Are you King of the Jews?”**-The Jewish leaders fabricated new accusations against Jesus and accused him of claiming to be a king and causing riots.

Pilate is determined to do his own investigating of these accusations.

*Pilate had expected to meet a sullen or belligerent rebel and met instead the calm majesty of confident superiority. He could not reconcile the character of the prisoner with the charge brought against him. (Tenney)*

### **Vs. 34**

**Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord...”**-Jesus is firmly in control and engages Pilate with his own question.

Depending on whose behalf Pilate is asking, may change Jesus’ response: Are you wanting to know if I am rebel king and a potential threat or am I simply a Messianic King?

### **Vs. 35**

**Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew...”**-I’m a Roman ruler, and a religious ruler is not my concern.

**“What have you done?”**-Jesus could have responded with a recap of all he accomplished in his earthly ministry (healed the sick, raised the dead, fed the multitudes).

### **Vs. 36**

**Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world...”**-Jesus explains that he is no threat because he is a heavenly king.

My kingdom was established by peace and displays love and sacrifice.

### **Vs. 37**

**“So, you are a king?”**-Jesus did not deny his kingship.

**“For this purpose, I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world”**-This is a clear picture of Jesus’ humanity and divinity.

**“To bear witness to the truth...”**

His kingdom came from heaven and it is a kingdom built on truth, eternal truth.

### **Vs. 38**

**Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”**-Many people today, like Pilate, challenge truth.

God’s word is the truth and the truth sets us free.

**“I find no guilt in him”**-The man who gave the final word to have Jesus crucified could not find fault in him.

We can find fault with a leader, a church, a religion, but not with Jesus. You will find no fault with the Son of God!

### **Vs. 39-40**

**“Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.** -Two men stood before the crowd and they rejected a savior and restored a thief.

Barabbas was guilty of being a thief, a rebel, and murderer. That day an innocent man took his place and he was set free. However, he walked away a thankless thug.

How much of Barabbas do you see in yourself?

“You and I may fairly take our stand by the side of Barabbas. We have robbed God of his glory; we have been seditious traitors against the government of heaven: if he who hateth his brother be a murderer, we also have been guilty of that sin.” (Spurgeon)

There is only one person who can take our place and set us free: It's simply JESUS!

We can't save ourselves. There is only one person's truth and love that can set us free: It's simply Jesus!

November 26th, 2017

Discuss

Dig Deeper



## Simply Jesus: Pilates Court

John 18:28-40

# 3D Guide

**DO.**

**BOTTOM LINE: We can't save ourselves. There is only one person's truth and love that can set us free: It's simply Jesus!**



1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



### DISCUSS.

1. Why would the Jews not enter Pilate's headquarters, and what is ironic about that? Jesus once said, "You strain a gnat, but swallow a camel." What connections do you see in today's culture?
2. Of all the things Jesus could have said to Pilate, why do you think he said he came to speak the truth?
3. What characteristics of an earthly kingdom vs. a heavenly kingdom do you see presented in this passage?
4. How does the crowd choosing Barabbas over Jesus reflect the fallen nature of all humanity?
5. What parallels can you make between Barabbas and yourself? How does this relate to the truth of the Gospel?

**DO.**



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on [blueletterbible.com](http://blueletterbible.com) or with their app.



# Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

**DATE: November 26th, 2017**

**Scripture:** Jesus heals lepers. Luke 17:11-19

**Take Home Questions: Reach Luke 17:11-19 then play this game for fun!**

1. If you remember how many men were sick, touch your nose (10)
2. If you remember what book of the Bible we read the story from, touch your head (Luke)
3. If you remember who Jesus told the 10 men to show themselves to, hold up 2 fingers (The Priest)
4. If you remember what the name of the disease made the 10 men sick, fold your hands (Leprosy)
5. If you remember what city the 10 men lived in, wiggle your fingers (Samaria)

**Memory Verse:** I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. Psalm 9:1

