

Date: 3/4/18

Scripture: Mark 15:1-15; John 18:33-38

Scripture title: Series- Access granted part #1 "Traded for a rebel"

Intro: Launching into a new series for the next several weeks based out of Mark 15 titled, "**Access granted**"

Illustration: If you have lived in central Florida for any length of time you have been to Disney, Sea-world, or Universal studios. You need a pass in order to gain access. If your pass is valid, you are then **granted access** to ALL the park has to offer.

In the same sense, if we are going to gain access to a Holy God, we must go through Jesus. His last breathe was our open door and direct access to God and eternal life!

Key verse: **37**And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. **38****And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.**
(Mark 15:37-38 NASB)

The veil represented **NO ACCESS** to a Holy God. Sinful man could not be in the presence of a Holy God.

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; but your **iniquities have made a separation between** you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. (Isaiah 59:1-2)

Jesus' last cry (battle cry) opened total access to ALL who would choose to repent. "**Access granted.**" ALL PEOPLE!!!

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one** can come to the Father except **through Me**. (John 14:6 NLT)

In the next several weeks our hearts will be challenged and changed as we set our gaze upon Jesus, who **paid it ALL** to give us total Access!! **This is GOOD NEWS!!**

Mark 15:1-15

Who is Pontus Pilate?

- Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judea from A.D. 26-36.
- The historian Philo of Alexandria describes Pilate as “a man of a very inflexible disposition, and very merciless as well as very obstinate.”
- Pontius Pilate is mentioned solely in connection with the trials and crucifixion of Jesus.

A week early in the narrative, we see a group of people saying Hosanna, Hosanna! Now we see a group saying crucify him, crucify him. These were different groups. (followers vs. religious leaders.) These leaders envied Jesus. They were jealous.

So they fabricated a story and Jesus was unjustly accused.

Something within us craves justice. That is one of the ways that we bear the image of God. We carry within us His moral balance. We want unrighteousness, wickedness, and brutality to be judged swiftly and we long to see the righteous rewarded. -**Swindol**

Atheists often use this “problem of evil” to argue against the existence of God. Their reasoning goes something like this....

*“If God is all powerful, He can eradicate evil.
If God is completely good He would eradicate evil.
Therefore, because evil continues to exist, a completely good and all powerful God does not exist.”*

We must know that God is intimately involved in all of our struggles. He is not distracted or on an eternal vacation.

The Gospels testify that God cares about justice and sympathizes with our suffering so much so that He left heaven and became one of us, and MADE THE PROBLEM OF EVIL HIS OWN!!

Listen!!- Jesus loves us so much that He voluntarily became the most innocent victim who ever lived and endured the greatest injustice ever seen or heard. **JESUS TRADED HIS LIFE FOR A REBEL...THATS US!**

Let's look at John's Gospel to get another angle of this scene. **John 18:33-38**

What is truth anyway??

Truth is **ONLY** what God says.

Ethics vs. morals.

If you didn't already know there is an attack on absolute truth which is ultimately an attack on God.

Show picture of time magazine.

People are searching for truth, they are starving for truth!

Jesus says to Pilate that He has come to **testify about the truth**!!

We can trust what God says!!

2 Timothy says that **all scripture** is God breathed! Inspired!

The bible is the TRUTH! God's word breathed onto paper. Perfect. Inerrant & Infallible- incapable of making mistakes or being wrong.

The bible does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact. The bible clearly defines what SIN is! All have SINNED! And this is why Jesus gave His life.

The bible is living and active. It is relevant for every person who searches for God with their whole heart! The bible is the **Book of life!**

“The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.” Psalms 119:160 NASB

Illustration: Walking and Trusting God like the Atlantic Ocean.

WE HAVE ACCESS!!!

Here is what **we can't trust**: Things that man says (check me/ don't take my word, look to God's word!), The news, social media, the Karan, the book of moron, the additions and subtractions to God's word, money, possessions, our feelings, and even our friends at times.

We must understand that TRUTH is what is at stake in our world! Satan loves to twist TRUTH, and that is why our world is so TWISTED! (**Did God really say?**)

1The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, **“Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”****2**“Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. **3**“It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or **even touch it**; if you do, you will die.’”**4**“You won't die!” the serpent replied to the woman.

5“God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”**6****The woman was convinced.** She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. **7**At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. (Genesis 3:1-7 NLT)

It is crazy to me that EVE is talking to Satan. When that happened, Eve forgot what God's word said and then was convinced to go against what God said. DISTANCE DISTORTS.

Truth doesn't change

The primary reason for the local church is to declare the truth of God! The word of God should be at the center and be the heartbeat of every Jesus Centered church. That is not happening...

The word of God is not out dated, boring, or written ONLY for the culture back then. NO!! The word of God is alive, relevant, and applies to every facet of our lives and current culture TODAY! Why?
TRUTH DOESN'T CHANGE!

Jesus Christ is **the same** yesterday and today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8 NIV)

Jesus Christ is Truth! and truth doesn't change! **Truth is not dead, TRUTH is alive!!**

Truth will set you free.

courtroom experience with my dad.(my dad represented me)

Close: (Piano)

31To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **32**Then you will **know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**" **33**They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" **34**Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. **35**Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son **belongs to it forever.** **36**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (John 8:31-36 NIV)

Just like Jesus took the place of this rebel Barabaas, He also takes our place. He grants us access to walk in freedom in all that He has for us! He tethers our rebel heart to His! You are mine!!

John 18:37— everyone who is of the truth, **hears my voice**.

If you have heard the voice of God this morning, don't harden your heart!

Let us not be like Pilate and wash our hands while truth stares us right in the eyes! Run to the truth! Run to Jesus! God loves you, His grace is sufficient to cover all your SIN! He is for you, and He will never leave you....**and that it the TRUTH!**

Let's pray

Thank you LORD that we have been **granted ACCESS** to you forever!! Thank you for trading a Rebel for your righteousness. Trading your Kingship for a killer. Your majesty for a murderer. Barabass took blood, but you gave blood. Thank you for trading your life for a Rebel like me!

Salvation Prayer >>>>>

AMEN!!

Additional notes:

The belt of truth.

The difference of being a pass holder and a pass user.

[John 1:14](#)

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

[John 1:17](#)

For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and **the truth**, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. (John 14:6 NASB)

They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen. (Romans 1:25 NIV)

The old adage says "a lie gets halfway around the world before Truth has a chance to get its pants on"

like gravity Truth will keep you grounded.

Truth must be heard

"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. (JOHN 17:17 NASB)



3D Guide

DO.

DIG DEEPER.



Anytime you read God’s word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the words, terms, tense and context all have meanings. As a group re-read **Mark 15:1-15; John 18:33-38**. As you read these verses take time to observe, interpret, and apply the scripture. Also interrogate the text by asking the 5 w’s and an H. (who, what, where, when, why, & how) Try to read a few versions. Some examples would be the Amplified Version, New living translation (NLT), New international (NIV), New King James (NKJV), English Standard (ESV), New American Standard (NASB), and compare. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.

DISCUSS IT.



Bottom Line: Truth is ONLY what God says.

1. Jesus was traded for a rebel (Barabbas). We were all rebels towards God at some point in life. Quickly (3-5 min) share how you came to Christ and how His life gave you life.
2. Jesus came to testify about the truth. We know that absolute truth is under attack in our world. Why is it of utmost importance to stand for the truth of God’s word and testify about it?
3. How do you balance truth and love? Spend time praying for friends and family that need the truth spoken in love.

DO IT.



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?