

Plenty Good Room



Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?

Welcome to the Bridge! It's a joy to share this new study with you during this season of Lent entitled *Plenty Good Room*. During this study, we focus on one of the African American spirituals as our theme along with scripture, as we journey together towards Holy Week and Easter.

This song is one of lament in which African Americans who had been enslaved asked an existential question concerning an event at which their physical presence was impossible: "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"

However, anyone who had seen the brutal punishments of the era trembled in empathetic thought. Even as Billie Holiday grew up in the North (Philadelphia), she was able to sing hauntingly of the strange fruit on poplar trees in the South; and contemporary events such as the Charleston massacre of 2015 chillingly bring to the collective memory of African Americans having crosses burned in front of their homes and churches, and many being lynched in the not-so-distant past.

Key Scripture: Mark 15:25-47

1. The Crucifixion: Capital Punishment (Mark 15:24-27)
2. Were You There When They? (Mark 15:28-41)
3. Three Hours One Friday (Mark 15:33-47)
4. When They Laid Him in the Tomb (Mark 15:42-47)

Scripture References: John 18:36, Mark 15:25, Isaiah 60:2-3, Psalm 22:1, 1 Peter 2:5, John 1:5.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. What are your feelings about the death sentence?
2. How does the way a saint dies influence our faith in God?
3. How will you be a witness?

CHALLENGE: What is one "a-ha" moment you had in our group discussion today. Note it and write it down. If you applied your learning from this week's message, how would the next week be different for you?

SERVE: How is God calling us to live out this message this week? As individuals? As a group?

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also "find, follow and like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g., answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

We Care!

NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a part of our faith community, we want to provide you with the information you need to “*find needs and meet them, find hurts and heal them, find problems and solve them.*” Here’s a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472

EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

OR EMAIL THEM DIRECT USING THE LINKS BELOW:

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