



Sermon Growth Guide

March 28, 2021

To Give His Life - The Truth

John 18:28-40

Key Verse: John 18:36 “Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.’”

Big Idea: We crave power in the now, but Jesus comes with truth eternal.

Foundations

Pastor Tim asks a key question this week, “What will you do with Jesus?”

Our passage depicts a bloodthirsty crowd that is being fueled by the Jewish religious leaders who are convinced that Jesus is a blasphemer and ought to therefore be condemned to death.

But why the cross? The Jews had the authority to stone Jesus, but they brought Jesus to Pilate for one purpose, death by crucifixion. They wanted to prove that Jesus was cursed by God (Deuteronomy 21:23). Pastor Tim is very clear: the Jewish authorities didn’t just want Jesus dead, they wanted his message dead too. So they sought to damn Jesus and His message to death on a cross.

Today is Palm Sunday and we now move into Holy Week. Next Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection. Where curse and damnation were sought, eternal life was born, reconciliation with God through Christ.

The Jews, like us today, craved power in the now, but Jesus came in Truth—that in Him is life and life eternal.

What will you do with Jesus? Open your time together in prayer, asking the Spirit to do mighty works in your hearts.

Understanding God’s Word

According to John 18:28, when is the Passover meal in relation to Jesus being brought before Pilate?

In verse 37, what reason does Jesus give for being born?

Pulling from the whole counsel of Scripture, together as a group respond to Pilate’s question in verse 38.

Applying God’s Word

We crave power in the now, but Jesus comes with truth eternal. A part of this truth is that Jesus is Lord of all. What will you do with Jesus? Will you receive His Lordship over the totality of who you are?

Identify areas of your life that you would like to give over to Jesus more fully. Lift up one another’s desires to God in prayer.

Witnessing God’s Word

How might you witness to those around you this week that there is Truth, objective truth, and truth is seen most clearly in the acts and claims and person of Jesus Christ? John opens his Gospel by saying that Jesus was characterized by the fullness of “grace and truth.” How can you better model this fullness in your daily interactions?