

IMPACT GROUP QUESTIONS

KEY PASSAGE: MATTHEW 27:45-66

Opening: What truths impacted you most from the sermon/passage?

INFORM THE HEAD / STIR THE HEART

1. As you picture the scene of the people standing around watching Jesus die, why do you think Matthew (the author) wrote the phrase in vs. 49, "Jesus...yielded up His spirit"? Why is this important for us to understand?

2. Please describe what took place as soon as Jesus "yielded up His spirit." How did the centurion and the people with him respond to this and what would have caused their response?

3. Please compare Matthew 27:57-60 with Isaiah 53:9 (written over 700 years before Jesus' crucifixion). What insight does Joseph's care of Jesus give you about:

a. God's power?

b. God's wisdom?

c. God's love?

4. In vs. 62-66, what words did the priests and the Pharisees use to describe Jesus? In light of the fact that they had seen Jesus do so many miracles over the last three years, why do you think they had such a violent response to Jesus?

5. What other ways do you see people today respond to Jesus? What do you think fuels their responses?

6. Please read Matthew 27:66 and Matthew 28:11-15. After seeing proof of Jesus' resurrection, why do you think the Pharisees responded as they did?

7. Which character in this story do you most see yourself in and why (bystanders - vs. 47-48; centurion - vs. 54; women - vs. 55-56, 61; Joseph of Arimathea - vs. 57-60; chief priests - vs. 622-66; Pilate - vs. 65)?

8. What from this passage stirs you to worship the Lord?

CHALLENGE THE WILL

Based on what you learned from the study, or read in the passage, what actions/focus do you need to pursue in order to draw closer to the Lord (i.e. Thank Jesus who carried our sin in great agony; Come personally and interact directly with the God of life and hope; Be in awe of the Son of God)?

WEEKLY READING PLAN

Monday, April 20 // Psalm 22:1-18

Thank Jesus for carrying your sin

Tuesday, April 21 // Psalm 22:19-31

Remember and turn to the Lord

Wednesday, April 22 // Hebrews 7:23-8:17

The better covenant in Jesus

Thursday, April 23 // Psalm 2:1-12

Serve the Lord and rejoice!

Friday, April 24 // Acts 1:6-11; 2:1-11

He Delivers our Comforter