



Week 6 - Jesus Controls His Execution

RECAP FROM LAST WEEK:

Were you able to complete last week's application step?

- Parents:** Did you look/find help to learn to parent in a God honoring way this past week?
- Everyone:** What did you do to better honor your mother this week out of reverence for God?

CONTENT:

Have you ever asked that question, "What is truth?" How can we be sure what the truth is?

Read John 18:28-38.

In this passage, who does Jesus stand trial before?

Why did the Jews bring Jesus to Pilate (v.31)?

LEADER'S NOTE: Rome would not allow a Jewish court to execute anyone, thus they needed the Roman authority to kill Jesus.

What is so significant about the prophecy in v.31-32?

LEADER'S NOTE: Jesus had indicated that He would be crucified back in 12:32-33. John is pointing out in chapter 18 that Jesus was even in control of the way in which He would die. Romans crucified people. The Jews stoned people. Thus the fact that the Romans would not allow the Jews to exercise capital punishment was actually part of God's sovereign plan to lead Jesus to the cross.

Is that something that comforts you? The fact that Jesus was even in control of the way in which He would be killed. If so, explain how that truth affects you.

Why do you think Pilate asked Jesus if He was King of the Jews?

LEADER'S NOTE: He would have been trying to figure out if Jesus really was a threat to Rome. Caesar was the emperor and Pilate was ruling over a region and needed to determine if Jesus' claim to be the King of the Jews was in contest with the empire of Rome.

How does Jesus respond in verse 36? What do you think that means?

When Jesus refers to His kingdom what is He referring to?

LEADER'S NOTE: Jesus came to rescue people from the kingdom of darkness and bring them into the kingdom of light. Jesus was not concerned with the overthrow of Rome but rather with the overthrow of sin. When Jesus refers to His kingdom here, He is referring to the kingdom of righteousness rather than some geographic area.

Is Jesus King of your life? Is He the one in control? OR Is there a particular area in your life that you have yet to surrender to His control? Explain your answer.

Do you think Pilate felt he was a threat to Rome? Explain.

LEADER'S NOTE: See verse 38.

What does it mean when Jesus says, "Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."?

How does a person know if they are of the truth?

What do you think of Pilate's response to Jesus in verse 38?

APPLICATION:

How will you rest in God's control over your life this week?

What does it look like for you to be "of the truth" this week?

Who will you tell this story to this week?

PRAYER:

Oh God, thank you for intentionally dying on the cross for our sins and allowing us to be reconciled back to you. Thank you that you not only did this but you fulfilled many prophecies as a sign for us, those before us, and those after us to believe in you. Give us more faith to share your divine plan of love and sacrifice with others. In Jesus name, amen.