



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark

PART 70 - 15:33 - 39

Into the Darkness

READ: Mark 15:33–34 and Isaiah 53:4–6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Mark gives us very few details about those three hours of darkness. What details DOES he give us, and what do they communicate about what is happening at the cross?
- 2) Isaiah says, “The LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.” How does Isaiah 53 help us understand Jesus’ cry of abandonment in Mark 15:34?
- 3) Pastor G said, “Jesus is going THERE for us. He is entering the horror our rebellion deserves... so that you and I NEVER HAVE TO.” How does that change the way you think about what Jesus endured for you at the cross?
- 4) Which is easier for you to grasp emotionally: the physical suffering Jesus endured or the spiritual reality of Him bearing our sin and judgment? Why?

Grace Comes Looking

READ: Mark 15:33–34 and Luke 15:1–7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) In Jesus’ story in Luke 15, who initiates the rescue of the lost sheep? What does that tell us about the heart of God toward people who are lost?
- 2) What is the difference between seeing the Gospel as “God threatening bad people with hell” and seeing it as God coming to rescue people who are already lost and heading to hell on their own?
- 3) Pastor G said, “Before we reach for God, God reaches for us. He draws us. Calls us. Awakens us. Offers forgiveness.” Where can you recognize God’s grace reaching for you before you were reaching for Him?
- 4) God’s grace can be received or resisted. Is there an area of your life right now where you sense God drawing, calling, correcting, or inviting you? What would responding to His grace look like?

The Way Is Open

READ: Mark 15:37–38 and Hebrews 10:19–23

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) What did the Temple veil communicate about God’s holiness and humanity’s sin? Why does its being torn at the exact moment Jesus dies matter?
- 2) According to Hebrews 10:19–23, what has changed about our access to God because of Jesus?
- 3) Pastor G said, “The blood has been shed. The sacrifice has been offered. The work is finished. The way is OPEN.” Which part of that statement is most meaningful to you personally, and why?
- 4) Many Christians believe Jesus has opened the way to God but still approach Him as though the curtain were hanging there. What can make us reluctant to come confidently to God, and how should the cross change that?

Look Up And See Him

READ: Mark 15:39 and Romans 12:1–2

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why is it significant that Mark places this confession on the lips of a Roman centurion rather than one of Jesus’ disciples or Israel’s religious leaders?
- 2) The centurion makes his confession when Jesus appears defeated and dead. What does the cross reveal about Jesus that His miracles alone might not reveal?
- 3) Pastor G said, “He deserves US. Our hearts. Our plans. Our dreams. Our future. Our EVERYTHING.” What is the difference between believing Jesus is the Son of God and actually living as though He deserves everything?
- 4) As you picture yourself standing with the centurion at the cross, what is one specific part of your life you need to surrender again to Jesus?