



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark

PART 71 - 15:40 - 42

When Everyone Else Has Gone

READ: Mark 15:40a AND John 19:25–27

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Mark tells us that a group of women remained at Golgotha, watching Jesus after His death. What do you imagine they were experiencing emotionally and spiritually as they stood there?
- 2) John tells us that Jesus' mother was among those near the cross, and that Jesus made arrangements for her care even while dying. What does this reveal about His character and the kind of love He calls us to demonstrate?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, "They couldn't overpower the soldiers. They couldn't stop the execution. They couldn't take Jesus down from the cross. But they could stay. And they did!" What does their example teach us about remaining faithful when we cannot change a painful situation?
- 4) Have you ever faced a situation where you couldn't fix someone's suffering but could offer your presence, compassion, or support? What did that experience teach you about loving others?

Three Women, Three Stories, One Savior

READ: Mark 15:40b AND Luke 8:1–3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Luke tells us that Jesus had delivered Mary Magdalene from seven demons. How might that extraordinary experience have shaped her devotion to Jesus, especially when following Him became dangerous and heartbreaking?
- 2) Mark names Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and Salome. Why do you think identifying these women as eyewitnesses is important to the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, "Three women. Three names. Three lives forever changed by the Messiah they had followed." In what ways has following Jesus changed the direction, priorities, or purpose of your own life?
- 4) The sermon highlighted the possible irony of Salome watching Jesus crucified between two criminals after previously seeking places of honor for her sons. How does the cross challenge our assumptions about greatness, success, and what God's Kingdom should look like?

Following Jesus When The Road Leads To A Cross

READ: Mark 15:41 AND Mark 10:42–45

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Mark describes these women as people who had been following Jesus and ministering to Him since Galilee. What is the difference between admiring Jesus and actually following Him as a fully devoted disciple?
- 2) In Mark 10, Jesus teaches that greatness in His Kingdom is measured by service rather than status or authority. How did these women demonstrate that kind of greatness, and how does it challenge our own definitions of success?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, "Their faithfulness wasn't based on knowing how everything would turn out. It was rooted in their love for Jesus, even when everything they believed seemed to have collapsed around them." How can we cultivate that kind of faithfulness when God's plans don't unfold the way we expected?
- 4) These women followed Jesus, served Him, and supported His ministry with their resources. Which of those expressions of discipleship comes most naturally to you, and which one might God be calling you to develop more intentionally?

When Friday Looks Like The End

READ: Mark 15:42 AND John 19:31–37

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Mark emphasizes that Jesus died on the preparation day before the Sabbath. Why did the approaching Sabbath create urgency concerning His burial, and what obstacles stood in the way of giving Him a proper burial?
- 2) John records that Jesus' legs were not broken, connecting His death to the Scriptures concerning the Passover lamb. What does this fulfillment reveal about Jesus' identity and God's redemptive purposes, even amid the apparent chaos of His crucifixion?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, "You don't have to understand everything God is doing to remain faithful to the God you know!" What does that statement mean to you personally? How can remembering God's character sustain your faith when you cannot understand your circumstances?
- 4) The sermon closed with the reminder that "Friday was not the end of the story!" What situation in your life currently feels like a Friday afternoon, when hope seems distant or the outcome is uncertain? What would taking one faithful step toward Jesus look like for you this week?