

# John 19:1-16

## April 6, 2025



### CONVERSATION STARTERS

What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?

What Scripture has been shaping you recently?

Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?

What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?

What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?

What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?

What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

### MAIN POINT

Though Pilate found no validity in the claims against Jesus, Jesus was flogged, mocked, and handed over for crucifixion at the insistence of the Jewish religious leaders.

### INTRODUCTION

*As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.*

**When was a time you were mocked? How did that make you feel?**

**Think about what Jesus endured for us. How do you feel knowing Jesus endured being mocked, beaten, and ultimately killed because He loves you?**

Leading up to John 19, the Jewish leaders bring Jesus before Pilate. Though Pilate didn't find the innocent Jesus guilty of anything, he caved to the pressure and sentenced Jesus to death on the cross. As we read, stop and think about what we are reading, processing what Jesus went through. Jesus endured this all because He loves us and because of His obedience to the Father.



## **UNDERSTANDING**

*Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.*

 ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ JOHN 19:1-5.

**What did Pilate do and say in this passage? Why do you think Pilate had Jesus flogged if he didn't think he was guilty?**

**What was Jesus's response to how He was treated? What does this teach us about Him?**

In this passage, we begin to read of the worst of Jesus's physical suffering on the way to the cross. Our reading last week ended with Pilate attempting to free Jesus, but the Jewish crowd demanded the release of the revolutionary Barabbas instead of Jesus.

In this passage, Pilate submitted Jesus to flogging to appease the insistent Jewish leaders. He didn't see a reason to put Jesus to death and may have thought they would be satisfied with Jesus being severely beaten.

Not only was Jesus flogged, but He was also mocked. The King of kings was dressed in a purple robe and a crown of thorns was placed on His head. This "crown" was likely made of date palm fronds, which produced painful spikes when turned inward. It would have dug into His head, causing bleeding.

But the insult didn't end there. Jesus was mocked verbally and slapped repeatedly. He was brutally ridiculed on the road to die for the sake of our sins.

But He calmly endured. He modeled peace in the face of suffering. He showed self-restraint. He didn't retaliate. The Father had a plan, and Jesus was dedicated to carrying it out, no matter how difficult or undesirable. We can learn many lessons from how Jesus lived His life, including this posture of "nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done" (Luke 22:42b).

 ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ JOHN 19:6-11.

**How did the Jews respond to Jesus being flogged?**

**Though Pilate was torn in this passage, he is still responsible? What did he ultimately value?**

**What did Jesus's response in verse 11 mean? How does this still apply to our world today?**



Pilate's attempt to appease the Jews didn't work. When they saw Jesus, they called for His crucifixion. The Jewish accusers wouldn't be deterred. They told Pilate they had a law that mandated Jesus's death (possibly Leviticus 24:16). Learning this motive didn't bring Pilate relief. Pilate's concerns were mounting. Releasing Barabbas could bring him trouble from Rome, the Jewish religious leaders were not satisfied by his ruling, he risked angering Jesus's followers by having Him beaten, and now Pilate learned that Jesus claimed to be divine.

When Pilate took Jesus back into his headquarters (the Praetorium) to question Him, Jesus and Pilate had an exchange that ended with Jesus proclaiming the true source of Pilate's power: God. Jesus was, in fact, of higher authority than Pilate, or any ruler Rome could produce. The only power Pilate held had been given to him.

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ JOHN 19:12-16.

**How did Pilate respond to his conversation with Jesus? What might this indicate about his thoughts on what Jesus said?**

**What argument did the Jews make against Jesus?**

**Again, we are reminded of what Pilate ultimately valued. What makes us choose convenient things over the right things in many instances?**

After his conversation with Jesus, Pilate was moved enough to actively try to release Jesus from his custody. The Jews, however, offered a new argument: Jesus set Himself up as a king over Caesar and was therefore an enemy of Rome.

John noted that "it was the preparation day for the Passover" (v. 14). The day of preparation would normally take place the day before the Sabbath. Since Passover was an eight-day feast, scholars believe this note to refer to the Friday that fell during this eight-day period. This mention of Passover reminds us of the connection between Jesus and the Passover lamb. Unlike the lambs sacrificed every year at Passover, Jesus's death on the cross would mark the ultimate and final sacrifice needed for the forgiveness of our sins. Seemingly out of options and excuses, Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

## **APPLICATION**

*Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.*

**How does Jesus's response to suffering inform the way we should approach suffering in our lives?**

**How have you seen God work as you've walked through a valley in your own life?**



**Think about Jesus's accusers. They were acting under the guise of doing the right thing but were fueled by hate and pride. How can we avoid this same trap in our lives?**

## **PRAYER**

*Close your time together by sharing prayer requests, praying for each other, and the group.*

Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Thank Him for time to reflect on what Jesus endured on our behalf. Ask to live more like Jesus in your everyday lives.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

*Encourage your group to look ahead to next week's scripture passage as we continue our Easter series on John.*

**April 13, 2025 --- John 19:17-30**

## **COMMENTARY**

### **John 19:1-16**

The physical and emotional torment that Jesus suffered is beyond description. He was not only physically beaten but ridiculed and mocked. Perhaps as one last effort to have Jesus released, Pilate presented Him before the crowd after His beating in order to see if now they could accept His liberation (19:4). The Jews, however, insisted on His death because Christ claimed to be the Son of God (19:7).

Pilate's claim that he had the power to free or crucify Jesus brought the following response: "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin" (19:11). What should perhaps be noted here is Jesus' intimation that Pilate, though not the initiator of the death of Jesus, was not without sin.

