



USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE DURING YOUR STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

Message Recap: Barabbas is mentioned in all four Gospel accounts of Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilate. Even though Pilate recognized Jesus' innocence and the religious leaders' jealousy, he complied with the demands of the crowd by giving the guilty Barabbas his freedom and handing the innocent Jesus over to be crucified. There remains great significance for us today - but what is it?

» Main Points

- We ARE Barabbas.
- Learn to live gracefully.
- Learn to live gratefully.
- Learn to live lovingly.

» Getting Started

- Talk about a time when you were guilty of something but either never faced a punishment or didn't have to finish the consequence you had been given.

» Observation

- Read and reflect on [Mark 15:6-15; 9:35; John 10:18; Romans 5:8; Isaiah 53:3-7; Galatians 5:1-6; Philippians 2:6-8](#).
- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?



- This week, be aware of people who are close to you but far from God. Who are the people that God is moving you to invite to Easter? Start talking to them about their plans for Easter.



- Why do you think there might be significance in Barabbas' name as Jesus Barabbas (Yeshua - deliver, save, rescue; Barabbas - son of the father)?
- Barabbas was a murderer, a rebel, and the leader of an insurrection against Rome. Jesus was a rabbi (teacher) who preached about the Kingdom of God, healed people, and set them free from sin. What compelled the crowd to demand Barabbas be set free rather than Jesus?
- What insights into the gospel do you see in the release of Barabbas in exchange for Jesus?
- Barabbas was guilty yet released. As followers of Jesus, we are guilty yet released. Reread Romans 5:8, Galatians 5:1-6, and Philippians 2:6-8. How do these passages relate to our release?



- Everything changes when we experience grace and love, just like Barabbas may have experienced when an innocent man was killed while he, a criminal, was set free. Your story matters. Talk with your family about your faith story and the moment you experienced God's love, grace, and forgiveness.

» Next Steps and Prayer

- We have been challenged to learn to live gracefully, gratefully, and lovingly. What steps do you need to take to live a better life that reflects grace, gratitude, and love?
- Close by thanking Jesus for his willing sacrifice to set us free.