

4Ws So That You May Know The Trial

John 18:28-19:16

Dgroup's Curriculum: Leader's Copy

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 50** together, taking turns reading a verse at a time, or reading responsively with the leader reading a verse and the group responding with the next verse. You can discuss the Psalms you read and share what they mean to you.

Consider singing some of the songs on the sheets that were included in your packet if you have someone in the group that plays the guitar or can lead music and/or play the guitar.

WELCOME

Questions.

Have you ever been accused of something that you did not do. How did you react to the situation? Tell us the story.

WORD

Discussion Questions.

1. When Jesus was brought before Pilate, he was accused of doing evil. Read John 18:30-31. Pilate responded "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.", indicating that the religious laws of the Jews were different from the laws of the Roman government.
 - A. What actions can you think of that are not allowed in God's Word, but are acceptable under other religions' laws, or acceptable under civil or criminal law?
 - B. Examples.
 - i. God commands to honor your father and mother in Exodus 20:12. Is this required under civil laws?
 - ii. God commands us not to make for ourselves any idol in Exodus 20:4. We are not to worship or serve any idol. But some religions promote idols. And there is no civil or criminal laws against having graven images.
 - iii. What other examples are relevant for you today?

2. While being questioned in John 18:33-37: Jesus was challenging the thinking of Pilate and also increasingly revealing Himself to him. Pilate, though a perceptive man, missed this. It all went over his head.
 - A. What did Jesus reveal about Himself to Pilate?
 - B. Why do you think Pilate missed the deeper implications of Jesus' statements?
 - C. What about people today, why do they miss Jesus' revelations about Himself?
 - D. What can we do to help people see Jesus more clearly?

3. Pilate declared Jesus Not Guilty. Read John 18:38. He then repeated this several times, and attempted to release Jesus. Yet he did not take a firm stand to end the trial justly.
 - A. Why do you think Pilate did this?
 - B. What do you think are common reasons today that people will not act decisively on what is just?

4. When the Jews brought up a personal threat to Pilate, saying he would be reported as "not a friend of Caesar, he had a change in thinking and actions. Read John 19:12-14, where Pilate rejected Jesus by saying "your king", not mine. Whereas previously Pilate was insistent that Jesus was innocent and not deserving death, the Jews had hit a hot button that transformed Pilate's whole direction.
 - A. What are common hot buttons of people today?
 - B. What can you do to be less susceptible to these hot buttons?

5. Looking at our passage in John 18:28 - 19:16, what are the ways in which Jesus suffered?
 - A. Which in your opinion was the most difficult or painful?
 - B. Knowing that Jesus suffered these things out of love for us, what is your personal response?

WORK

Close your time together in prayer.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Singapore Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Core, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Singapore Facilities

- CCF Singapore Center
- Equipments

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends