



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage Matthew 26:69-27:14
Title: The SIX Illegal Trials of Jesus (Part 2)
Speaker: Pastor David Menard- 9/12/2021

Discussion Starter –Do you recognize the injustice that you see in our world today? What is your response? What do you see is the source of the injustice? What have you learned from the way Jesus responded to these unjust trials?

Peter’s Denial of Jesus (Matthew 26:68-75)

- What were the six progressive steps Pastor Dave identified that led to Peter’s denial of Christ?
- What is it about pride that makes us spiritually weak? How do we avoid this trap as Christians?
- Explain the implied danger of Peter following Jesus “at a distance”? What would following Christ from a distance look like today?
- What insights did you gain from what it means to follow Jesus closely from reading the two quotations from C.S. Lewis and Malcom Muggeridge?

Judas’ Remorse (Matthew 27:3-10)

- Why do you think Judas was remorseful after he betrayed Jesus? What do you think his motive was for betraying Jesus in the first place?
- What are the key differences you see between the failures of Peter and Judas?
- What is the difference between remorse and repentance?
- What subtle things about Judas’ character are revealed from scripture that identify his true motivation for being a disciple and following Jesus for 3 years? Why do you think Jesus allowed this to happen?
- How might a Judas manifest themselves in a church today? What might be some key identifying traits that we would see?

Jesus Before Pilate, Luke 23:1-7

- What were the charges against Jesus presented to Pilate? How did they change from those previously presented to Caiaphas (Matt 26:61) and those defined by Caiaphas, (Matt 26:65)?
- How did Pilate react to the accusations brought against Jesus by the chief priest and scribes?
- What question did Pilate ask Jesus? How did Jesus respond? Why is this significant of this response?
- Why do you think Pilate found no fault in Jesus and jumped at the opportunity to send Him to Herod?

Before Herod, Luke 23:8-12

- Why was Herod “exceedingly glad” to see Jesus?
- What was the difference between the questions asked by Pilate’s compared to those of Herod?
- Why do you think Jesus was silent before Herod, while He responded to Pilate?
- How do our questions affect the response we receive from the Lord? What types of questions do you ask God in prayer?