



## SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **Matthew 27:1-2**

Date: **December 4, 2022**

### Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the teaching and bible passage this week?
2. What kind of effort did Christ's enemies put into his death in this text? Explain.
3. Christ's enemies are motivated by *hate* to destroy Christ, whereas his people ought to be motivated by *love* to pursue Christ. Knowing that the forces of evil work double time to destroy Christ, how ought that to motivate us in our spiritual disciplines? What does that teach us about the necessity of Bible intake, prayer, and fasting in our lives?
4. How would you counsel someone who is having a difficult time sacrificing their sleep for the sake of their daily time with the Lord?
5. In speaking of the religious leaders, Pastor Jacob said, "*Their biggest concern is not what's true, but what people think is true.*" Explain what he meant by this. As Christians, how ought we to discern truth from falsehood in an age that's full of hypocrisy and political theatre?
6. Who is Pilate? What role did he have in society at the time of Jesus? What do we know about his character?
7. Despite their hatred for Pilate and the Romans, these religious leaders seek to collaborate with Pilate and Rome in order to achieve Christ's death. What does this teach us about the depths of human depravity? What is the common ground that's found between these two enemies?
8. Read Matthew 16:21, 17:22-23, and 20:17-18. As we continue to study the passion narrative of Christ, we're reminded that God is sovereign over all these events. He's sovereign over these forces of evil as they plot to crucify our Lord. How does this truth comfort you? How does it produce hope in your life in whatever situation you might find yourself in?