



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	w/c 16th April 2023	Jesus saves Barabbas	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> What was your Easter like?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> Do you take part in TV votes? Which one(s)? How often does the person you vote for go on to win? What does that say about you? <input type="checkbox"/> Why do we often think and act the same as others? Why can it be hard to break free of the 'norm'? Is the majority always right?		
 Read	<u>Mark 15:1-15</u>	 Catch-up	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.1</u> What did the Religious Elite decide to do? Why was this 'passing the buck'? When have you (or others) done this? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.2</u> Why was this title so provocative? What was it designed to do? Why is it wrong to blame Judaism for the death of Jesus? How has the misuse of Matthew 27:25 fuelled antisemitism? Why & how, in the way we tell the 'Easter story', do we reject antisemitism? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.3-5</u> Why might Jesus have given a 'no comment' interview? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.6-8</u> How was this like a TV vote? 364 days a year Pilate was brutal. For 1 day only, for 1 person only, he wanted to appear generous/ kind. Why? How do you spot 'gesture politics'? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.7</u> What did Barabbas and Jesus have in <i>common</i> ? (See also Matthew 27:15-16) How were they <i>different</i> to each other? Bar-Abbas means 'son of [Bar] the father [Abbas]' Who was Jesus Christ THE Son of? How was it a choice between two Jesuses/ two kinds of revolution? How do some representations of Jesus today owe more to Barabbas? e.g. use of force, intimidation, power... <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.11</u> How might the crowd have been manipulated? Why? When have you felt or witnessed manipulation? How do we guard against this? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.13</u> How could the same 'crowd' shout 'Hosanna' [save us] Son of [Bar] David on 'Palm Sunday' and a few days later 'Crucify him'? Why are we the 'crowd'? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.15</u> Why are we 'Barabbas'? How was Barabbas saved by Jesus? What do you imagine/hope Barabbas went on to do with his 'new life'? What about us? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Matthew 27:24</u> Why did Pilate wash his hands? Pilate knew Jesus was innocent and yet was still content to see Him crucified. When have we seen this? Who might think feel we have 'washed our hands of them'?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> Compare all 4 Gospel accounts: Matthew 27:11-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:1. What des each add?		

 Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> Who do you most identify with: the crowd? Pilate? Barabbas? Jesus?
 Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the work of Prison Fellowship https://PrisonFellowship.org.uk/
 Pray	<p><i>Dear Jesus,</i> <i>Thank you that You _____. Knowing that You died for me makes me feel _____. Forgive me when I have been _____. Help me to be more like _____. Help me to live to the full the life You died to give me. Amen.</i></p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk