

Message Series: Easter

Message Title: Who are You?

Key Scripture:

John 19:23–25

Other scriptures: Matthew 27:33–44, John 12:32, Zechariah 12:10.

Theme

Who are you? To know who we really are is one of life's most important questions. Our identity comes from who God says we are not what others say or think. But our identity really comes from Jesus and Who he is. Your what is really a who!

Message Summary

Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor in charge of the trial and execution of Jesus, asks him this exact question: Who are you? Are you a criminal? Are you a king? The way you see Jesus is the way you will see your life. The Cross is a reminder of what we are all looking for and what can only be found in Jesus. So are you passing by or will you come near and stand by the Cross?

Whole Group Questions

- Think & Talk: About who you are? Have I hope in the future? What am I overcome with?
- Do: Make a decision to accept yourself because that is what God has done in Jesus.
- Pray: Lord Jesus, thank you for the cross, your sacrifice that takes away my sin, and who you are, which makes me who I am. Amen.

How does applying this message affect our:

Fellowship – experiencing healthy relationships with other people

At the foot of the cross we are all the same before God we're in need of salvation to be saved by his grace. As you read the account of Jesus crucifixion share together how much we all need Jesus.

Discipleship – growing in Christ both cognitively and experientially

There is no sufficient answer to all of life's questions, to the suffering and misery that we see there is only the cross. In the closing scenes of Jesus's life he shows us he is our representative. From his birth: God with us, to now on the cross: God for us. How can we encourage each other to keep looking to the cross?

Ministry – Discovering and using our God-given gifts and abilities

The soldiers are fully conscious in what they are doing. They are only interested in what they can get out of life. Rolling the dice and hoping it comes up good for them. The soldiers completely missed the point of what is happening and it is possible to

miss the point of the cross even today. How are you going to minister to others as a result?

Evangelism – Reaching out and sharing the love of Christ with unbelievers

The death of Jesus is not a sad story, defeat, or a failure it's expressing what cannot at that point be seen, that at the moment of Jesus's greatest pain is the moment of the greatest redemption. Psalm 22 – God always comes through! Who could you encourage or share these words with?

Worship – Surrendering our heart and life to Christ on an ongoing basis

The Chief Priests mocked "He saved others." They sneer, "He cannot save himself!" That would have clearly defeated the purpose and in their self interest they miss who Jesus is.

Worship Jesus as your Saviour!