

Small Group Material - Jesus Gives 4

...All he has (Mark 15. 16-41)

Nothing is held back on the cross, all is given.

Leaders: please use this material in ways you think will suit your particular group or come up with ways of praying which you feel would be more appropriate.

Welcome (10 mins) When did the crucifixion begin to have real meaning for you? How does it make a difference in your life?

Worship (15 mins)

David says to God in Psalm 51, 'I know my transgressions and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.'

Read Psalm 32. 1-5 and use that to recognise the effect sin has on our lives.

Have a time of quiet confession of sins and then acknowledge together the wonderful gift of forgiveness, justification and reconciliation which Jesus' death gives us (Romans 5.8-11)

Then listen to or sing Reckless Love by Cory Asbury:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sc6SSHuZvQE&list=RDS6SSHuZvQE&start_radio=1&t=20

Word (20 mins)

Listen to or watch David Suchet reading Mark 15.16-41 in St Paul's Cathedral. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjOgcMQXvSc>. You'll find this section from 1.54.43 to 1.59.05. But you may want to start it a bit earlier just to give people time to settle, concentrate and get used to his voice - as well as any technical adjustments you need to make. 1.52.15 is the point where chapter 15 starts.

Or this dramatic reading of Mark 15

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AuDAIh8IEK8&list=PLWSVdFUs6XZsvctzBa8ExetKwYrjDi7by&index=15>

Then, get everyone to read the passage quietly to themselves, coming to dwell on any part which resonates with them. Allow a good 3 minutes for this.

Ask people to share which bit spoke to them and what God seemed to be saying to them.

Give thanks to God in prayer and worship for Jesus giving his all.

Witness (40 mins)

You will have been praying for many aspects of the church's mission and ministry over September - often using your own imaginations.

Here are a few specific things which it would be great to pray into:

1) St Mary's School:

- Give thanks for: the teachers and for their stamina & enjoyment throughout this long term for the Nurture Room & Catherine for Mini Movers meeting in the school each Friday morning
- Pray: for all the new children starting at the school, and those who struggle at school for the new Special Educational Needs Coordinator (Colette) the Governors & Headteacher and for their continued vision & leadership

2) Community Outreach:

- Give thanks: for the various networks we've set up and the fruitfulness and support these offer for the increased way the various agencies in the town are working together
 - Pray: for each of us to have God's eyes for the lost & marginalised someone to step forward to run The Store for all those struggling with daily living in our community for "The Bridge" - the new Nurture Room at Top School
- 3) Youth:** Pray for the newly launched Christian Union, 'Rooted' at the Secondary School; for Remix and Remix+ as we share the gospel and love the young people in our community.

Pray for Spark and Impact (Youth Small Groups) - that God would teach them through the Book of Acts. Witness and Wonders is the theme.

4) Pray for the mission partner whom your group supports.