**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. June 9, 2024**

**Choosing The Wrong Savior**

Matthew 27:11-26

**Key Truth:** Every person must decide if they will trust Jesus as Savior or seek to justify themself before God.

**The Second Trial:**

1. Jesus is being accused of treason against Rome. John 19:12

2. Pilate feared the crowd more than Jesus.

 A. He knew Jesus was innocent of the charges.

 B. He knew he was being manipulated by the religious

 leaders.

 C. He refuses to heed the counsel of his wife.

3. The Crowd went along with the religious culture, rather than

 submit to spiritual truths.

 A. The Crowd determine they have no need for Jesus Christ.

4. Barabbas knew he was guilty, yet Jesus took his place.

 A. Barabbas was set free from sin and death.

 B. Barabbas’ release from condemnation is the story of all

 believers.

**What we Learn:**

1. God is Holy, and humanity is evil. Matthew 27:27-31

2. Fear of the crowd’s disapproval can lead us down a

 destructive path.

3. Knowing the truth about Jesus doesn’t make you a Christian.

 A. Surrendering your life to King Jesus makes you a Christian.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:**  Remain rooted in God’s Word so that you will avoid deception. Pray for those who do not trust Jesus as Savior, that God would convict them of their sin and reveal their need for Him.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

What does it mean to trust Jesus as your Savior?

Has there been a time in your life when you trusted Jesus as your Savior? Would someone be willing to share?

We learned that Pilate was influenced by negative peer pressure, but we can also be influenced positively by peer pressure. God wants us to remain in community to have friends in our lives that help us along the way. Write down how you see this truth revealed in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Can you think of a time when you have influenced someone else (positive or negative)? Is there anything you can learn from that experience?

Read Matthew 27:24-26: Is there significance to Pilate’s washing his hands before the crowd?

What did Pilate’s actions reveal regarding his decision to trust Jesus or trust himself?

How has attending Connection Group strengthened your faith?