

Word notes Sunday 20/6/2010 DT Braven-Giles
Jesus – Crucified Saviour

Summary (read this bit out to remind cell members what was said on Sunday)

Key Text: John 19:16-19

DT Played a video of Dr Samuel Lockridge's preach on King Jesus, delivered shortly before he went to be with his Saviour and Lord. Pilate ensured everyone would know Jesus was a king by the notice he had placed on his cross to great protest by the religious leaders.

Pilate's story is an interesting one. He is reported in other records of the time as a tyrant, someone who'd kill wayward subjects for little or no reason, without trial. Why then does he struggle so much with Jesus? Even if he finds no basis for a charge (Jn 18:38) what is to stop him crucifying one more troublesome Jew?

In Jn 19:1-6 Pilate has Jesus flogged and ridiculed, ensuring no-one can mistake him for the leader of an uprising, repeating he has no charge to answer yet the people still cry out for blood.

In Jn 19:12 Pilate is trying to set Jesus free yet the religious leaders manipulate him into the crucifixion they want. Perhaps the "King of the Jews" sign is Pilate's way of getting back at them – he knows they don't hold Caesar as their king since only God appoints Kings over Israel.

Pilate had to answer for himself who Jesus was, even if cynically he made a bold statement that still resounds today.

It being Father's Day think of this from a Dad's perspective – to lose any child let alone your only son doesn't bear thinking about yet this is what Father God was prepared to do in asking Jesus to suffer and die for you and me. The price Father God paid, through His Son, is not cheap. Such an outrageous act demands a response – do we accept Jesus and decide to live the life he bought for us or do we reject him and live life by our own rules? What will be the cost to us?

Application (this is the bit where cell members get to participate. Lead discussions around these points)

Take a large piece of paper and get everyone to write short descriptions of Jesus like in the Samuel Lockridge video.

Who do you say Jesus is :

- which of the descriptions written down mean the most to you now?
- which if any are not part of your understanding of him?
- which is the most challenging in your life (eg – is Jesus really King and Lord)?

If you had just a few minutes to tell someone about Jesus which descriptions would you use?

Prayer:

Pray for Sunday's open-air meeting. See below.

Pray for our mission partners, especially those in parts of the world where persecution is a fact and the cost of following Jesus is real.

Witness (this is the bit where the cell talks and prays about how to share the Good News)

Help needed to distribute invites to the Church Without walls meeting. Week of 21st June – can your Cell help?

On Sunday 27th we're having an open air Celebration meeting on Studlands green followed by a picnic (bring your own food). Please be praying for this event, that people will come and get a taste of the joy we have because of Jesus, the love we have for him, each other and those around us.

There will a need for us all to muck-in, whether that be in setting up the meeting – up front, seating, sound, etc, welcoming folk as they arrive, seating those that want to sit, handing out song sheets etc. So please be ready to help.