

Final Encounters?

Week 5 Lifegroup Questions

Pontius Pilate

Read Luke 22:66-71

- Why do you think that Jesus refuses to answer the questions of the chief priests and teachers of the law?
- What do you think it was that caused them to reject Jesus? What are some of the things that cause people to reject Jesus today?

Read John 18:28-38

- Why do the chief priests and the teachers of the law bring Jesus to Pilate? What does verse 28 reveal about the kind of people they were?
- Look at the charges they bring against Jesus in Luke 23:2, what is wrong with them? How is this a fulfilment of Jesus words in John 8:44?
- How easy do you find it to lie, what reasons do you have for doing so? Have you ever lived a lie, or believed a lie that was told to you or about you?
- What do you make of Pilate's response to Jesus, and in particular his comment in verse 38? What relevance does this statement have today?
- How would you answer Pilate's question "what is truth?"

Read Luke 23:4-12

- What do you make of Herod's response to Jesus, what did he expect from him? Do you ever behave in a similar way to Herod?
- What do you think it was that caused Pilate and Herod to become friends on this day?

Read Matthew 27:15-26

- How do these verses make you feel when you read them? What was it that finally caused Pilate to wash his hands of Jesus?
- Despite the rejection he faced, Jesus still went to the cross for Pilate, Herod, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, as well as all of those who shouted "crucify him". What encouragement can we take from this?