

### The Heart of the Matter

13. Why did Jesus go through this trial and torture when he could easily have used his great powers and escaped? How does this challenge you? What are you motivated to do in response?

14. What character attributes of Jesus do you admire the most in this account? Based on this account, in what areas do you need to become more like Jesus?

15. Who do you identify with the most in this account? The Chief Priests and elders? Pilate? The Crowds? Barabbas? Jesus?

16. What touches your heart the most in this passage?

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## Life Group Study Guide

(Life Groups Coming Fall 2017)

### He Was Without Sin Mark 15:1-15 For the Week of March 26, 2017

#### Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. Have you ever been falsely accused of something? What happened? How did you respond?
3. How do you react when you see or experience instances of injustice?

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BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, CHICAGO, IL  
Some questions adapted from: The NIV (c) Serendipity Bible, 1996, Serendipity House, and Bible Study  
Fellowship International @ [www.bsfiinternational.org](http://www.bsfiinternational.org)

### **Digging Deeper**

4. Jesus has just been up all night and has already suffered much abuse. In verse 1, why is the whole Sanhedrin so eager to reach a decision about Jesus so early in the morning?

5. Why was it necessary for the Jewish religious officials to hand Jesus over to the Romans, especially Pilate?

6. What is behind Pilate's question and Jesus' response in verse 2? (John 18:34-38)

7. What would have been the nature of some of the chief priests' accusation in verse 3? (Mark 14:55-63)

8. Why is Jesus silent for most of these proceedings before Pilate and Herod (V5; Luke 23:6-12)?

9. What insights into Pilate's and Jesus' character does this account offer? Why is Pilate so indecisive in verse 12?

10. Why do the people, after witnessing Jesus' miracles, hearing his teachings, and praising him with hosannas, now demand that Jesus be crucified?

11. Why does Pilate ultimately grant the crowd's request? What insights into the Gospel do you see in the release of Barabbas in exchange for Jesus (8:37; 10:45)

12. What mental, physical and emotional brutality do the soldiers inflict on Jesus? Why? Does their mockery stem from fear, anger, unbelief or what?