**“A KING REJECTED”**

**Mark 15:1-15**

**THE BIG IDEA:**

We must choose what we will do with Jesus when the world around us cries out for His crucifixion (*elimination*).

**KEY VERSE(S):**

*“Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them; and after having Jesus flogged, he handed Him over to be crucified.”* (Mark 15:15)

**THE ONLY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ JESUS POSED WAS TO THEIR BROKEN WAY OF LIFE.**

* **Vs. 1 –** *“…the chief priests tied Jesus up, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate.”*

**NO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CAN CHANGE THE FACT THAT JESUS IS THE KING OF KINGS**

* **Vs. 2 –** *“So Pilate asked Him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’”*
* **Jesus gives an affirmative response (**literally, “Yes, it is as you say”) **but it’s as if He is communicating that Pilate’s idea of what that meant and Jesus’ idea were very different.**

**JESUS’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DOES NOT CHANGE BASED ON THE ATTACKS FROM MANKIND.**

* **“***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”* (Hebrews 13:8)
* **Vss. 3-5 –** “*And the chief priests accused him of many things.****4****Pilate questioned him again, “Aren’t you going to answer? Look how many things they are accusing you of!”****5****But Jesus still did not answer, and so Pilate was amazed.”*

**THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ WILL CONTINUE TO REJECT JESUS AND WANT HIM GONE.**

* **Vs. 13-14 -** *Again they shouted, “Crucify him!”* ***14****Pilate said to them, “Why? What has he done wrong?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!”*

**WE MUST \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ FOR JESUS IN THE FACE OF OPPOSITION REGARDLESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES.**

**Vs. 15 –** “*Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them; and after having Jesus flogged, he handed him over to be crucified.”*

**What will you do with the King of the Jews, Jesus the Christ?**

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Icebreaker:**

* What is the dumbest thing that someone has ever pressured you to do?

**Start thinking:**

* What stands out to you as you read John Mark 15:1-15?
* Why do you think the crowd took the side of the Pharisees?
* Why do you think that Jesus refused to answer Pilate’s questions?

**Start sharing. Discuss in depth to create openness***.*

* Read John 11:45-53 & 12:9-11. Why did the Pharisees want Jesus killed and what did they tell Pilate? (See Luke 23:2)
* We saw how the Pharisees misrepresented Jesus to Pilate. In what ways does society falsely portray Christians in our time?
* In what ways have you shouted with the crowd rather than stood with Jesus? In what ways has your religiosity overshadowed your relationship with Him?
* In what ways might we have stand for Jesus despite the consequences in our culture?
* What do you need to do as a result of what you learned through this study?

**Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.**

* Heavenly Father, I thank you for giving me a proper perspective of Jesus’ sacrifice. You gracefully love us despite our shortcomings. I pray that You would continue to show me how I can best demonstrate your love to others. Thank You for saving me, and showing me how to be your ambassador.– Amen