



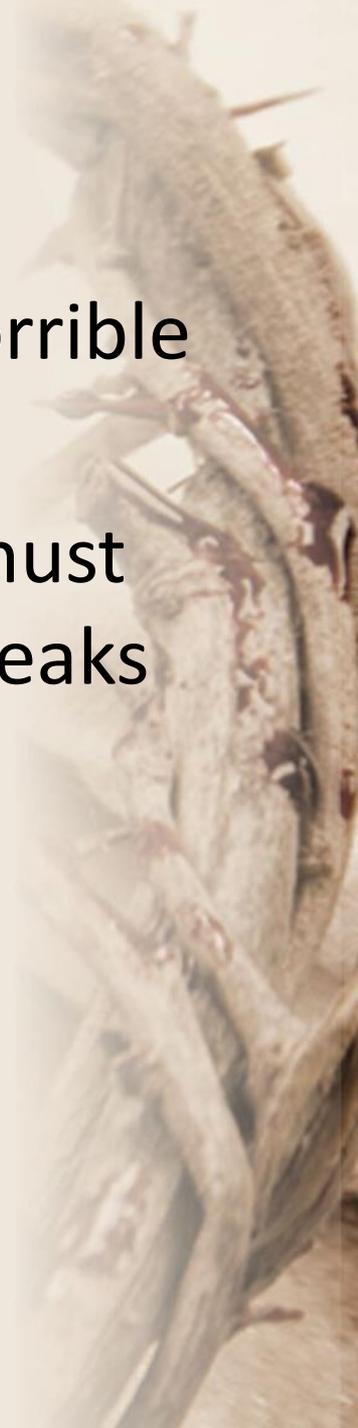
# Community Bible Experience

- The book of John this past week
- My task is to bring an overview to your reading



# Killing Jesus

- What would make someone do such a horrible thing to such a good person?
- To understand this course of action, we must look at what the Bible has to say, for it speaks of human nature.
- Created in the image of God-
- Good at our core
- We chose our own way- rejected God-
- Bad at our core



# 1. Surprisingly, people love darkness (the dark side)

- John 3:19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.



# 1. Surprisingly, people love darkness (the dark side)

- Sin hides in darkness
- People don't want their sin exposed



## 2. The innocent are often treated badly

- John 1:9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.  
<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.



## 2. The innocent are often treated badly

- Consider what the Bible says happened to Jesus
  - 39 lashes
  - Beaten with rods
  - Crown of thorns
  - Spit upon
  - Robe on back til it coagulated; then torn off
  - Nails through his hands
  - How can people be so cruel?



# 3. People pre-judge others

- This man Jesus simply cannot be who He says He is!
  - John 10:30 | and the Father are one.”
- <sup>31</sup> Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him, <sup>32</sup> but Jesus said to them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?”
- <sup>33</sup> “We are not stoning you for any good work,” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.”



# 4. Those in power will always seek to preserve their way of life

Jn 11:47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin.

“What are we accomplishing?” they asked. “Here is this man performing many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation.”

<sup>49</sup> Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, “You know nothing at all! <sup>50</sup> You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.”

# So why did they kill Jesus?

- Because they were human
- There is a rottenness deep within our core
  - People love darkness rather than light
  - The innocent are often treated badly
  - People pre-judge others
  - People always try to preserve their way of life when it is threatened
- But there is a brighter side



# 5. God allows tragedy and then works to bring good out of bad

- Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.
- Rom 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good...



# So What?

- This week, (Holy Week) look at your life.
  - Where are you fighting to preserve the way things have always been? Is that what God wants?
  - Where in your relationships do you see people acting out the worst part of their nature? Is it you?
  - Where do you run into people choosing to live in darkness and hating the light? Be the light anyway.
  - What innocent person needs your protection?
  - Are you living in condemnation?  
Or like you are saved, forgiven, freed, redeemed?

