

Mark's Wild Gospel

Week 9 – A Wild Death & A Wild Hope

1. How would you explain the death of Jesus to an unbelieving friend?
2. Read Mark 15:6-39. How does the role of “King” work in our own understanding of Jesus? Do we ourselves think of Jesus as “King” – and what does that mean for us? Or do we most often think of Jesus some other way? How does thinking of Jesus as King change our thoughts and feelings about Jesus?
3. What do you think the centurion in verse 39 saw – perceived? How is his perception different from that of the others in the story – from Pilate’s, from the crowd’s and the bystanders’, from the chief priests’? What makes it different?
4. Do we ourselves see Jesus from the centurion’s perspective? Why, or why not?
5. Read Mark 15:42-16:8. Why does Mark spend six verses on the burial of Jesus?
6. What do you think gave Joseph of Arimathea the courage to go and ask Pilate to allow him to bury Jesus? How does the story give us courage to declare our faith and speak out about Jesus?
7. Why doesn’t the angel tell the women to actually bring the disciples back to the empty tomb? How does the angel’s message to the disciples help us see God’s amazing grace in the midst of their failures and faithlessness?
8. What does this passage reveal about who Jesus is and what He came to do in this world and in our lives? How does that intersect with your life right now?