

# “The Greatest Finisher”

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Mark 15:1-41

Two Trials - Same Result

*“Then they led Him out to be crucified.”*

“Crucifixion was designed to be the most humiliating and gruesome method of \_\_\_\_\_. It was a protracted, bloody spectacle of extreme pain that usually ended in a horrible death by shock or asphyxiation.”

*At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.*

- It was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sin is about \_\_\_\_\_.
- Darkness reverberated throughout \_\_\_\_\_.

*And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”)*

Congruent Words

- “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do”
- “Today, you will be with me in paradise.”
- “Dear woman, here is your son.” “Here is your mother.”

Incongruent Words

- “My God”
- “\_\_\_\_\_”

A Congruent Explanation

*For God caused Christ, who himself knew nothing of sin, actually to be sin for our sakes, so that in Christ we might be made good with the goodness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

- Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ our sin by becoming sin.
- Jesus experienced the \_\_\_\_\_ of our sinfulness.
- Being out of \_\_\_\_\_ with someone you love is painful.
- The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and to be a ransom for many.

Continued Congruency . . .

- *Yet the proof of God’s amazing love is this: that it was while we were sinners that Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*
- The real story is not in the \_\_\_\_\_, but in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- This is love that violates “\_\_\_\_\_”.
- It is no small thing to forsake someone you love.
- The greatness of the \_\_\_\_\_ versus the worthiness of the \_\_\_\_\_.

“The Rest of the Story”

- “It is finished.”

The cross is not about inspiration. It is about \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Talk it over...with your friends, family, or Growth Group.**

*Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.*

Re-read Mark, Chapter 15 -What are some ideas that come to your mind that might be different than those Joe talked about?

Do you think it was "fair" that Jesus received the wrath of God? What would have been "fair"? Is that a comforting thought?

How do the words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" strike you? Do they seem incongruous to you? Are they comforting?

If you had to choose, do you think Jesus' death on the cross or the resurrection is the most significant day in spiritual history?

Have you ever felt forsaken by God? Have you felt forsaken by another person? What has that been like?

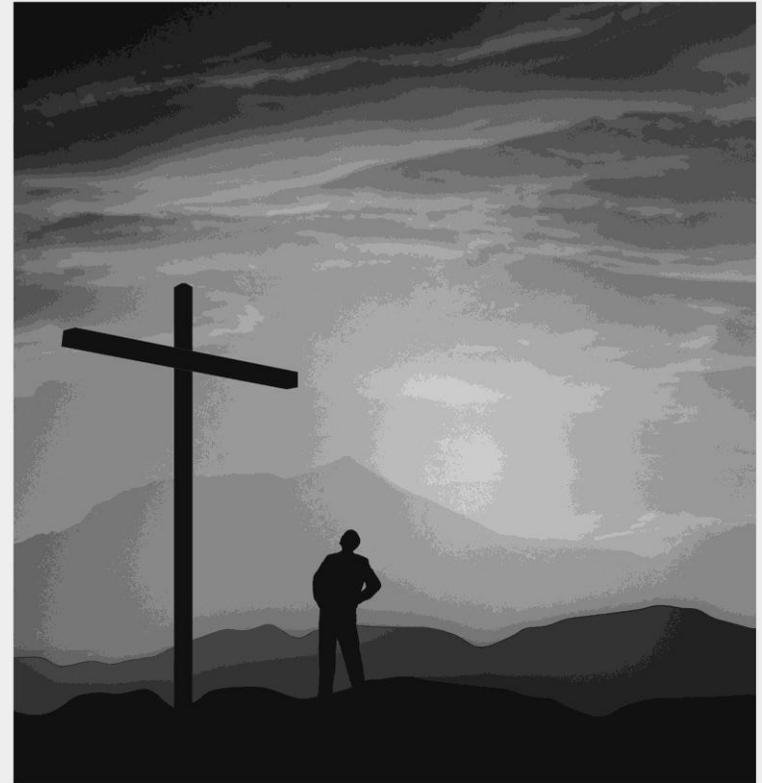
What hinders you from finishing the "tasks" that God has given you?

Big tasks are often made up of many smaller tasks. What are some of the "smaller" tasks that God has called you to?

If you signed up for "I'm In", don't forget to be praying for the person that God would have you reach out to.

What is your main "take-away" from this week? How do you plan to "live out" what you have heard this morning?

(Recommended Reading - [King's Cross](#) by Tim Keller, [Mark for Everyone](#) by Tom Wright. Many of the thoughts presented in this series have been generated from these books.)



*The Jesus you need to know...*

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