



Date: 2.25.24

Title: No Jury Needed

Scripture: Mark 15:1-14

Introduction to Analog

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else.” Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

Teaching Season

Over the next 6 weeks we’ll be exploring the season of Lent. Lent is historically a preparation time for Easter. In its earliest iterations in the 4th Century Lent was introduced to prepare new converts for the commitment they were making in joining the faith. This participation was extended to those who had wandered from the faith as a means to bring them back to the faith. As we journey through Lent this year, we will consider the journey towards the cross from the 1st person perspective of Jesus, in hopes that we will better understand what we are being called into.

Teaching

Jesus is tried before the Sanhedrin and before the Temple authorities. This is more than a passing detail. If the racket they were running was to remain they had to get rid of this rebel named Jesus. This is what Mark tells us the people at the house of Caiaphas wanted to do. He tells the reader that there was nothing in this trial having to do with justice – only ensuring the death of Jesus.

During this “trial” witnesses attempt to discredit Jesus and find a reason to get rid of him. In the end it seems that Jesus seals his own fate by speaking what the Sanhedrin found to be “blasphemy.” The irony of course is that it was the Sanhedrin that blasphemed by speaking against Jesus – the Son of God.

Listen to the teaching **online** or on the DCC App

Opening Question for the Group: Start your group discussion with the question below.

- 1) How are you participating in the Lent season this year?

Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don't feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. When we consider the scene Matthew paints around Jesus' trial what do you feel when you read it?
2. Why do you think the identity of Jesus in the gospels not very clear?
3. Those who *should* know who Jesus is are often the ones who miss him in the gospels - how do you respond to that?
4. Respond to this question: Who is Jesus?

Spiritual Practice:

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Lent Week 2](#)