

Engraved: Simon of Cyrene

By Eric Farmer, March 24, 2024

And the soldiers led Him away inside the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed Him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on Him. And they began to salute Him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they were striking His head with a reed and spitting on Him and kneeling down in homage to Him. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the purple cloak and put His own clothes on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

Mark 15:16-20

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry His cross.

Matthew 27:32

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry His cross.

Mark 15:21

And as they led Him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

Luke 23:26

1. We don’t get to choose the moment ☒ or method ☒ of our discipleship.

And He said to all, “If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

2. God’s movements are missional ☒, and ours should be too.
3. Family ☒ was and is part of the mission.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. If you knew without a doubt that the current season you are in was intended by God to make you more like Christ, how might you approach it differently?
2. What is your natural reaction when the unexpected happens? What phrase that means “I’m available” could you practise preaching to yourself now, so that the Holy Spirit can remind you of when surprises happen?