



Action Required - Week #14

Confrontation vs. Glimpse

Mark 15:16-32 (NIV)

The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. ¹⁷ They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!” ¹⁹ Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. ²¹ A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. ²² They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). ²³ Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. ²⁵ It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The written notice of the charge against him read: the king of the jews. ²⁷ They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!” ³¹ In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! ³² Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe.” Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

- At the cross, sin collides with grace!

Luke 23:34a (NIV)

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

- At the cross, debt collides with payment!

Confrontation vs. Glimpse:

1. Confrontations make it personal!

- Until the cross becomes personal, you will never be passionate about Christ!
- Jesus didn't merely die on "a" cross, He died on "my" cross!
- A confrontation with the cross leaves us captivated by grace!
- Until you are confronted with the cross you will never be able to understand pain.

2. Confrontations fuel discipleship!

Luke 23:26 (NIV)

As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.

Luke 9:23 (NIV)

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 14:27 (NIV)

And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

- Discipleship involves the sacrifice of picking up your cross.
- Before you will ever carry your cross you have to be confronted with the cross!

1 John 5:3 (NIV)

In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

3. Confrontations impact generations!

Mark 15:21a (NIV)

A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus

Romans 16:13 (NIV)

Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.

- A glimpse of the cross doesn't transfer, but confrontations leave a legacy of faith!

You can't produce a confrontation but you
can position yourself for one!