

PREACHING CURRICULUM



SERMON TITLE: Why kings killed the King

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 23:39-53

*Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said,
“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he
breathed his last.*

1

REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Luke 23:39-43. What is so surprising about the second criminal’s profession of faith? How did Jesus respond to him? What does this tell us about Christ’s heart for people?

Read Luke 23:44-49. What is the significance of the curtain of the temple being torn in two?

How did the Roman centurion respond to the events of Jesus’s death? Why was he such an unlikely person to respond as he did?

Read Luke 23:50-53. What risk was Joseph of Arimathea taking when he went and buried the body of Jesus? What does this demonstrate about his faith?

2

ASSESS YOUR LIFE

Do you consider yourself an “unlikely candidate” for faith in Jesus? If so, why? Can you identify with any of the three men in this story?

Have there been times when you took risks for the sake of Jesus? If so, what was the outcome of those experiences?

3

APPLY THE TRUTH

Why does Jesus’s death on the cross matter? Why do we celebrate such a gruesome event? What significance does it have for us and for the world?

How do we appropriately respond to Jesus’s sacrificial death? What implications does it have for our lives? How might we learn from the example of the three men we examined in this passage?

4

COMMIT THIS WEEK

How might you live in light of the cross this week?