Mark Series 16
Truly This Man was God’s Son
October 4, 2013

I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple simple, fun and delightful icebreakers to help your group warm up. Help your cell group members to put aside their busy and tiresome life to prepare their hearts to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prayerfully choose a few songs to lead the cell group members to worship God. The worship leader would encourage members to come before the throne of God to seek God’s face, and lead them into God’s presence. During this time, the cell group leader will also lead the group to pray aloud for the following prayer items:

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION: _____________, and their needs are: _____________
(Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:
  ▪ 9/08-10/20 Equipping Class: Apologetics by Kevin Gordon
  ▪ 9/19, 9/26, 10/17, 10/24 Course: ROLPLI Five Fold Ministry by David Cannistraci and Scott Abke.
  ▪ 10/6 Baby Dedication
  ▪ 10/13 Ministry Coworker Recruitment
  ▪ 10/18-10/20 Mission Conference

C. New comer: ________________ Confirm new comers’ name before the meeting.
   For sick members, friends or relatives: ________________ Please discuss how you may show your care to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God’s word, the group may discuss how to apply it to their daily life.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday’s sermon: (It would be helpful if you could listen on-line once again)
   1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? How did God speak to you through the message?
   2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Topic of the week: Learn from Jesus’ Obedience
   Verses: Mark 15: 21-39 – Please take turns to read God’s words.
   Memorizing Verses: Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!” (Mark 15:39)

   Foreword:
   Jesus was bound and handed over to Pilate. The chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Jesus, who was called “the King of the Jews”, crucified. In order to please the crowd, Pilate handed Jesus over to the Roman soldiers, who clothed him in a purple cloak and put a crown of thorns on him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. (Mark 15:1-20)

1. God’s Son endured all kinds of abuses for us (Mark 15:21-32)
   A. Physical abuse: (Mark 15:21-24): Jesus not only was flogged by the soldiers, but also carried that heavy cross by himself until he was too weak to carry it. Jesus was actually carrying all your burdens for you. Jesus didn’t take the wine mixed with myrrh to relieve any pain, because Jesus wanted to take over all your pains.
   B. Mental abuse (Mark 15:25-30). Jesus silently took the mockeries from the bystanders and even the robber who was crucified next to him. Jesus endured great mental abuse because he wanted to take over all your shame.
   C. Spiritual abuse (Mark 15:31-32): Even though the Pharisees and the scribes knew Jesus is the Messiah that the Israelites had been waiting for, they did not believe in him. Instead, mocked him. Jesus took great spiritual abuse because he wanted you to be spiritually set free.

2. God’s Son carried all our sins (Mark 15:33-36)
A. Sins of the world made God forsake Jesus: Before Jesus took his last breath, he cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi (My God), Eloi (My God), lema sabachthani (why have you forsaken me)?” This was his dialogue with the Heavenly Father in Aramaic. In his prayer at Gethsemane, as His son Jesus cried out “Abba, Father”. But at that moment, as a human being, Jesus took the punishment for the sinners, but he was carrying all our sins. The righteous God has forsaken him at this moment (Psalms 22:1).

B. Jesus was carrying all our sins: Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. We are all now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:23-24) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23) God is righteous, so the world has to be punished for their sins. But God loves the world, so Jesus is willing to die for us, to carry our sins and redeem us.

3. God’s Son made a way to the heaven for us (Mark 15: 37-39)

A. A new way: Right after Jesus took his last breath, “the curtain of the temple was torn in two.” The curtain was between the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. God did this to open a new way that doesn’t require priests to offer sacrifices. We can approach our Heavenly Father directly through Christ Jesus. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

B. “Truly this man was God’s son”: This is from the bottom of the heart of a Roman centurion, a respectable gentile, who saw everything that Jesus did when he was crucified. Jesus did not perform any miracle, nor did he come down from the cross to save himself. Instead, he submitted himself to God and accomplished the redemption.

Jesus died on the cross to accomplish the redemption and opened a way to the heaven for us. He truly is God’s Son.

Discussion: (please choose the discussion according to the member’s needs)
1. Have you ever become a scapegoat and carried other’s mistakes?
2. What kinds of abuses did Jesus take? What was his response? Why?
3. Why did Jesus cry out with a loud voice, “Eloi (My God), Eloi (My God), lema sabachthani (why have you forsaken me)”? How is it related to our sins?
4. What is the significance of the curtain being torn in two? Why is it significant to you?
5. Jesus took the abuses and died to show his love to the world. How would you respond to his love of the cross?

Prayer:
Dear Jesus, we praise you and thank you for your redemption by being crucified on the cross. Now we can proclaim victory to the enemies because of your sacrifice. May you protect us and remind us of your grace of the cross, so that we can bring our daily burden to Jesus. We believe that by his punishment we are made whole, and by his bruises we are healed. Thank you for your grace. We pray in Jesus’ precious name. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.

Next week: Christian Life Topics