THE DEATH OF THE KING OF THE JEWS

Mark 15:16-47

Key Verse: 15:34

\* THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS (16-41)

1. How and why did the Roman soldiers mock Jesus? (12, 16-20) How did their mockery and torture of Jesus fulfill prophecy (See Isa 53:3)? What was the meaning of this to us?

2. Who was Simon and why had he come to Jerusalem? How did he participate in Jesus' crucifixion? What did he learn about Jesus? How might this event have changed his life? (Compare Ac 13:1; Ro 16:13)

3. Read verses 22-24. What did the soldiers do when they arrived at Golgotha? Why did Jesus refuse the pain-killing drug? What does "crucify" mean? What do the soldiers' actions reveal about them?

4. Read verses 25-32. What was the charge written on the cross? What did this mean to the Roman officials? To the religious leaders? To Jesus? What was the purpose of crucifying him between two robbers?

5. How did the religious leaders taunt him? What was the ironic truth in their words? Could Jesus have come down? (Mt 26:53) Why didn't he? How did all the others try to save themselves? (Pilate, the disciples, the religious leaders, etc.)

6. Note the time (25,33). What happened to the world of nature when Jesus died? What was Jesus' cry at the ninth hour? What did it mean? (Gal 3:13; Jn 1:29) How does this cry express Jesus' greatest pain?

7. What happened when Jesus breathed his last? What did the curtain torn from top to bottom mean? (37,38) What was the centurion's testimony? Why is this significant?

8. Who were the women who watched? What can we know about their human background? About their contribution to Jesus' earthly ministry? (40-41; Lk 8:2,3) How did the women show their love for Jesus to the end? (47)

\* JESUS WAS BURIED IN THE TOMB OF JOSEPH (42-47)

9. Who was Joseph and how did he participate? How did Jesus' burial confirm the fact of his death and set the stage for the resurrection?