

Digging Deeper: John 19:1–16

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Day 1

Read through and pray over John 19:1–16.

Reread John 19:1–3. Soldiers, under Pilate’s authority flogged Jesus. They mocked Jesus by placing a crown of thorns on his head and robe on his body. The mockery continued as they repeatedly said, “Hail, king of the Jews” and slapped him. Jesus endured this for you and me and to fulfill prophecy. Read Isaiah 50:6. Jesus knew all the horrific and gory details of what he was facing yet he continued. Pray and thank our Lord and Savior, Jesus for his perfect execution of his mission to save you. Jesus endured every lashing, every thorn in his head, and every gory detail for you. Praise him for his unwavering pursuit of you.

Day 2

Read John 19:4–5. Pilate tried to pacify the crowd. Although he found no basis for the charges against Jesus, Pilate had Jesus flogged and presented to the crowd in hopes that this would satisfy the people. Pilate knew what the people wanted but he tried to give them something else.

What does God require of you, and what are you created for (Micah 6:8, James 1:27, Ephesians 2:10, Matthew 28:19–20, and Luke 9:23)? Do we try to pacify God at times? Perhaps a quick prayer to check the box off, religious attendance, or acts of service. Take time today to earnestly pray and seek God. Pray for a divine yearning to fully follow His will—that we would die daily to ourselves, pick up our cross and follow Him.

Day 3

Read John 19:4–5. Pilate found no basis for the charges brought against Jesus. On at least three occasions Pilate repeats this sentiment. There are many translations of Pilate’s wording. No basis for the charges, no grounds, not guilty, I find no guilt, I find no fault. The Good News Translation says, “I can not find any reason to condemn him.” All of these translations are true. Jesus was and is innocent, blameless, without spot or blemish. Read Exodus 12:5, 1 Peter 1:19, Genesis 22:7–8, and John 1:29.

Day 4

Read John 19:6–11. Jesus remained silent as Pilate questioned him continuing to fulfill prophecy (Isaiah 53:7). In an attempt to get Jesus to talk, Pilate tries to reference his own authority over Jesus. Jesus points out that Pilate’s authority was granted and given from God above. Whatever authority we have has been granted by God. How are you using your authority? Are you trying to leverage your position to force compliance from your children, employees, and others? Have you considered how God wants to use your authority to advance His kingdom? Take some time to check in with and connect with the ultimate authority.

Day 5

Read John 19:12–16. Pilate wanted to release Jesus. However the Jewish leaders made it very clear that releasing Jesus would be in clear opposition of Caesar and would

come with severe consequences. Pilate knew what was the right thing to do but he chose to go with the crowd. There will be times in your life when the world will pit us to choose them or choose the things of God. Read Galatians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 2:4, Acts 5:29, Proverbs 29:25, and Joshua 24:15.

Day 6

All of this happened during Passover. Read Exodus 12 about the first Passover. Consider how God is so intentional and how his Word is true; he fulfills all his promises. Jesus was and is a perfect lamb without spot or blemish. God's plan is perfect and undeniable. Let us go and live intentional lives under God's authority understanding that His will is perfect.