

# Mark 15 : 33-47

*Jesus dies and is buried*

## BIBLE STUDY



## INTRODUCTION

### Starter:

As believers, the hope that comes through Jesus' death and resurrection is irreplaceable. 'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure'. (Hebrews 6 v 19).

Think through the impact this can have on our day-to-day life, especially when times are very difficult.

### Pray to start:

That the quiet, contemplative weeks of study leading up to the joy of Easter would be times of depth and grounding in your faith.

**Last week's study bleakly showed how Jesus was mocked and scorned on his journey towards death. This week we watch as he 'breathes his last' and is placed in the tomb**

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### Read: Mark 15 : 33-47

#### Let's unpack the passage.....

1. Mark tells us that darkness covered the land (**v.33**). What do you think this darkness symbolised and in what other ways do we see darkness in this passage (**e.g. v 35-36**)?
2. What strikes you about the declaration from the centurion in verse 39? (**Consider that he was a Gentile, and that his words would have been provocative to both Jews and Romans at the scene**).
3. Look at **verses 40-41**. Why were the women present? Can you think of other ways in which women showed faithfulness and courage to Jesus through the Easter story?
4. What do we know about Joseph of Arimathea (**see also John 19 vv 38-42**)? How does he show faithfulness to Jesus in this story?
5. What details are given in **verses 42-47** to show that Jesus did indeed die? Why might Mark have wanted to make this clear?

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## GOING DEEPER

1. How would you answer the claim that Jesus was murdered **(see John 10 vv 11, 15, 17-18)**? What do these verses tell us about how Jesus went to his death?
2. Mark tells us in **v. 38** that the temple veil was dramatically torn from top to bottom. Reflect on how amazing this must have been, and even more so, what it symbolised. **(See Hebrews 10 vv 19-22; Ephesians 2 vv 13, 18).**



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**PRAY**

**'Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings' (Hebrews 10 v 22).**

Thank you Father God that we can have 'full assurance' because of what Jesus did for us through his death.

Thank you that we can draw close to you, sprinkled clean by Jesus' sacrifice. Help us to live with a sense of hope and wonder as we remember again this Easter the wonder of being brought close to you.

