

QUESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY

1. Tell your story. Describe a time in your life when you needed to make a difficult decision. How did you decide what to do? Would you do anything different next time?

2. Why do people often avoid making difficult decisions?

3. Read the following passages and note the Bible says about being decisive:
 - a) Deuteronomy 30:19-20
 - b) Joshua 24:15
 - c) Psalm 32:8
 - d) Proverbs 3:5-6
 - e) Proverbs 15:22
 - f) Proverbs 16:33
 - g) James 1:5-8

4. What are some of the reasons Pilate yielded to the desires of the Jewish leaders even though he knew Jesus was innocent?

5. What practical application are you going to make from this week's message? (*Share your decision with another person.*)
 - ☐ I am going to ask God for wisdom the next time I need to make an important decision.
 - ☐ I am going to share a biblical perspective the next time a person asks me for advice about a decision.
 - ☐ I am going to memorize Proverbs 3:5-6.

Cornerstone Church
Luke 23:1-25

April 6, 2025
Study Series #100

Making the Right Decision

I. Introduction

A. Making Important Decisions

B. The Accusation of the Jews

(See John 18:12-13; John 18:24; Luke 22:66; Mark 14:58; Mark 15:1; John 2:19; Matthew 26:60; Deuteronomy 17:6; Deuteronomy 19:15; Luke 23:1-3; Matthew 27:2; Luke 23:5; Matthew 17:24-27; Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25; John 18:28-32)

C. The Failure of Pontius Pilate

(See Luke 3:1; Luke 13:1; Luke 23:1)

II. Jesus Stands Trial Before Pilate

A. Pilate's Confession

(See Luke 23:3-4; Matthew 27:11-14; Mark 15:2-5; John 18:33-38; James 4:17; John 19:11)

B. Pilate's Complicity

(See Luke 23:5-12; Luke 23:5)

C. Pilate's Compromise

(See Luke 23:13-22; Matthew 27:15-23; Mark 15:6-14;
John 18:39-40; John 19:1-12)

D. Pilate's Capitulation

(See Luke 23:23-25; Matthew 27:24-26; Mark 15:15;
John 19:13-16)

V. Conclusion

IV. Communion

Communion at Cornerstone Church is open for all who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. You do not have to be a member of Cornerstone or a member of a Southern Baptist Church to observe Communion with us. If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, you are welcome to take Communion. If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, Scripture commands that you refrain taking Communion. (I Corinthians 11:26-31)

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Christian, or if you would like to talk with someone or have someone pray for you, please see the pastor after the service and he or one of our church leaders will be glad to speak with you.

Passage of Study

Luke 23:1-25

¹ Then the whole body of them got up and brought Him before Pilate. ² And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a King." ³ So Pilate asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And He answered him and said, "*It is as you say.*" ⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." ⁵ But they kept on insisting, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching all over Judea, starting from Galilee even as far as this place."

⁶ When Pilate heard it, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And when he learned that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who himself also was in Jerusalem at that time.

⁸ Now Herod was very glad when he saw Jesus; for he had wanted to see Him for a long time, because he had been hearing about Him and was hoping to see some sign performed by Him. ⁹ And he questioned Him at some length; but He answered him nothing. ¹⁰ And the chief priests and the scribes were standing there, accusing Him vehemently. ¹¹ And Herod with his soldiers, after treating Him with contempt and mocking Him, dressed Him in a gorgeous robe and sent Him back to Pilate. ¹² Now Herod and Pilate became friends with one another that very day; for before they had been enemies with each other.

¹³ Pilate summoned the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who incites the people to rebellion, and behold, having examined Him before you, I have found no guilt in this man regarding the charges which you make against Him. ¹⁵ No, nor has Herod, for he sent Him back to us; and behold, nothing deserving death has been done by Him. ¹⁶ Therefore I will punish Him and release Him." ¹⁷ [Now he was obliged to release to them at the feast one prisoner.]

¹⁸ But they cried out all together, saying, "Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!" ¹⁹ (He was one who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection made in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰ Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again, ²¹ but they kept on calling out, saying, "Crucify, crucify Him!" ²² And he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has this man done? I have found in Him no guilt *demanding* death; therefore, I will punish Him and release Him." ²³ But they were insistent, with loud voices asking that He be crucified. And their voices *began* to prevail. ²⁴ And Pilate pronounced sentence that their demand be granted. ²⁵ And he released the man they were asking for who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, but he delivered Jesus to their will.

All quotations taken from the New American Standard unless otherwise noted. NASB. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995. A free PDF of this note sheet is available: www.cssbchurch.org/sermons-2. © 2025.