

What if...?

Read: Luke 23:32-43

Summary:

For many the Easter story is very familiar and it is helpful to ask ourselves the question 'How do I react when I hear about Jesus dying on a cross?'

Luke records the feelings and behaviour of many who were present on the day:

Women	they were moved and upset, emotional and disappointed
Soldiers	they were too busy, oblivious and seen it all before
People	they were passive observers, feelings did not spill over into action
Rulers	they took the opportunity to mock the apparent failure
Soldiers	they insulted and ridicule, not grasping what was happening
Pilate	he was caught in the middle, not sure about the man
Criminal 1	he hurled insults wanting to know what was in it for him
What if...Jesus is God?	Not just a good man and teacher But God!
What if...Jesus planned to die?	No accident but for our sin!
What if...Jesus rose from the dead?	Victorious and now offers us life!
What if...Jesus is coming back?	To judge the world, and take us to heaven!

For the criminal who chose to trust Jesus there was forgiveness and paradise!

Application:

Please select from the following questions and do not attempt them all. Please encourage all to take part, to be honest and make room to pray for one another.

1. Was there anything shared on Sunday that you did not understand and needs clarifying?
2. What did God say to you on Sunday and what are you going to do as a result?
3. What does it mean to fear God? How does this impact your relationship with Him?
4. Even in death Jesus was associated with outcasts. What can you do to get to know people outside your comfort zone?
5. Many thought Jesus had failed but His ways are so different to ours. In what ways do you struggle with how Jesus works in your life?
6. Pray for each other that the Holy Spirit will always keep us excited and motivated by all that Jesus accomplished on the cross.
7. How do you feel about the return of Jesus?