

GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION

Sometime today, this Good Friday, read Mark chapter 15. Read it slowly. If you are doing this with someone else in your home, why not read it to each other. Pause often to consider what you read.

You might want to ask yourself where you might see yourself in the story. Are you watching in Pilate's court, or are you asking the questions that Pilate wanted answered? Or are you standing in Jesus' place facing loaded questions and determined not to answer?

Are you in the crowd who shout for Barabbas?

Are you among the mocking soldiers, enjoying their job a bit too much?

Are you in Simon of Cyrene's shoes, discovering yourself to be carrying a cross which is not yours, wondering what will happen when you get to the place of execution, maybe afraid?

Are you one of those crucified beside Jesus, or are you mocking at the foot of the cross? Or are you standing with the horror-stricken disciples?

Can you agree with the centurion?

Would you be able to see yourself suddenly standing up to be counted and giving up your private tomb, like Joseph of Arimathea?

Where are you in the story?

Now read the chapter again. And ask yourself where is Jesus? Where is Jesus in this story?

And what does it mean to you if you realise that in this story, above all others, Jesus is in your place?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, who in your mercy and grace took our place in mockery, in suffering and in death, on this Good Friday we thank you. Amen.