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**Introduction**

As we ponder the stations or places/experiences that Jesus encountered on the way to the cross, our scene shifts from the religious trial to the Roman trial. We want to enter the story if we can, and relate to different people or groups of people to understand why the reacted to Jesus the way they did-and if we do the same.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Can you tell us of a time where you did something that you knew wasn’t quite right-but you could justify it to yourself enough to do it anyway?
2. Read John 18:28-33 Why won’t the Jews enter the Roman Governor’s Palace? Why are they seemingly more concerned about that than about condemning an innocent man to die?
3. Read John 19:7, 12, & 15 Why didn’t they tell Pilate of the correct charge (blasphemy) to begin with? How does their argument put Pilate in a difficult situation?
4. Read John 18:37-38 What do you make of Pilate’s response to Jesus; “What is truth?” Why is that question still a difficult one for people today? Pilate declared himself innocent of Jesus’ blood. Can he or anyone be innocent of Jesus’ blood?
5. The crowd swung dramatically in one week; from praising Jesus to screaming for his crucifixion. What caused the dramatic shift? What does that tell us about crowds? How can we be sure that we don’t make those same kind of decisions?
6. Barabbas went from expecting to be executed to being released. How is that similar to our experience of deserving punishment for our sin and receiving forgiveness from Jesus?
7. Who is the person or group you identify with most in this station? Who is the hardest person or group for you to relate with?

**Shaping Your Mind –** ***“****…everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” John 18:37b*

**Moving Forward –** The trial of Jesus centers on his claims of identity; that matters to us today. He claims to be the King, the Son of God. How do you respond to that claim today and every day?