JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS

Luke 23:26-49

Key Verse 23:34a “Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.’”

1. Review Jesus' trial before the Jewish Sanhedrin (Luke 22:66-71) and before Pilate (23:1-25). Of what did the Jewish Sanhedrin accuse Jesus before Pilate? Why did Pilate condemn Jesus to death on the cross even though he knew that Jesus was innocent?

2. Why did they force Simon to carry Jesus’ cross? (26) How did Jesus respond to the mourning women and what prophecy did he give them? (27-31)

3. Why did Jesus have to be crucified? (33; 1 Peter 2:24; Galatians 3:13) What was Jesus' prayer on

the cross and how could Jesus pray like this? (34)

4. What is the theme repeated in the words of the mockers? (35,37,39) What is the ironic truth here? Why didn’t Jesus save himself?

5. How was the second criminal different from the others? How could such a criminal be saved at the last minute? (39-43)

6. Describe Jesus' death. What meaning can we find in the darkness that fell across the land? In the temple curtain being torn in two? In Jesus’ last cry? (44-46)

7. Who witnessed Jesus’ death? What was his testimony? (47-49)