



## Taking Some Time to Reconnect with God

April 4, 2020

### **Prayer:**

O Lord, no one on earth knows the hour of Your return. Only keep us watchful and awake, that we might always be at work in Your kingdom, for the sake of Jesus, amen.

**Read:** Mark 15:6-15

**Mark 15:6-15** New International Version (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. <sup>7</sup> A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. <sup>8</sup> The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

<sup>9</sup> “Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, <sup>10</sup> knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. <sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

<sup>12</sup> “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them.

<sup>13</sup> “Crucify him!” they shouted.

<sup>14</sup> “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

<sup>15</sup> Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

### **Reflect:**

In this moment in Mark’s Gospel, everyone failed.

The chief priests manipulated the truth for their own ends.

The people never stopped to think about what they were being told.

Pilate didn’t lead. He abandoned what he knew was right to do what would keep him in office.

And because everyone failed, Jesus was crucified.

Do you see yourself in this moment in Mark?

### **Be Blessed:**

May you find peace in the life of day to day, trusting that God will keep you in the fold even at the end. Amen.