



Seven Days | The Week That Changed Everything

Part 4: When Jesus Invites You To Choose



CONVERSATION GUIDE



SMALL GROUPS

We have walked together through the triumphal entry, the Lord's table and the agony of Gethsemane. Now we arrive at the moment where everything converges: the trial of Jesus. What began with cries of "Hosanna!" and ended with "Crucify him!" confronts us today with the same question that faced everyone present in that moment: what do you do with Jesus?

In **Romans 8:3b**, Paul reveals to us that this trial was not an accident of history but the strategy of God: to send his Son in human condition to condemn sin from within. Jesus chose the crown of thorns, the beatings and the cross; not because he couldn't stop it, but because he chose to go through it. When he said "*It is finished*", he declared that the work of reconciling us to God was complete. He already chose. Now it's our turn.

...God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh.

Romans 8:3b (NIV)



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. As we read **Romans 8:3b (NIV)**, we see that God did not send his Son to condemn us but to take our condemnation. What does that tell you about the character of God?
2. Let's read **Matthew 27:15–17, 20–21, 26 (NIV)**. Barabbas that day did not receive what he deserved, but what Jesus chose to give him: his place. What does it mean to you that Jesus did the same for you?

3. Pilate gave in to the pressure of the crowd even though he knew the truth. What is the hardest thing for you when it comes to making decisions that reflect your faith?

Jesus invites you to make these crucial decisions, and He lets you choose. He already chose the nails for you; now it's your turn to choose between life and death.

MAKE IT PRACTICAL

Jesus invites us to:

1. **Choose between eternal life and eternal condemnation.** This week set aside 10 minutes to write down what your life looks like before and after Christ. As you do, ask yourself honestly: what areas of your life have you not yet allowed that new identity to transform, and what has held you back?
2. **Live a life in the truth.** Is there a decision you know you need to make but have been putting off? This week take one concrete step —no matter how small— in the direction you know God is calling you toward.

PRAYER

“Lord Jesus, thank you because you chose first —the nails, the cross, the humiliation— so that we could have life. Thank you for not waiting until we deserved it; you simply chose to take our place. Today we ask for the courage to make the hard choices: to follow you completely and live in your truth every day, even when it goes against what the world asks of us. May every decision we make this week reflect that we have understood what you did for us. In your name we pray, Amen.”

TIPS

- Don't wait to "feel ready" to make decisions of faith; **obedience comes before the feeling.**
- If God confronts you with a difficult decision this week, **remember: Jesus already made the hardest one for you.**
- Choosing Jesus is not a one-time decision; **it is a life direction that is reaffirmed every day.**

EASTER

Easter is almost here...
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