

SERIES: From the Shadow of the Cross

TITLE: Man in the Middle

SPEAKER: Pastor Bob Marvel

PASSAGE: Colossians 2:13-14; Isaiah 53:12, 55:7; Matthew 27:15-16, 21-22; Luke 23:32-33, 39-43; Matthew 27:44; Ephesians 2:4-5 ; Psalm 23:4

DATE: February 17-18, 2024

The logo for Small Groups, featuring four puzzle pieces in a 2x2 grid to the left of the text "SMALL GROUPS". The puzzle pieces are white with teal outlines, and the text is white on a teal background.

MESSAGE TAKEAWAY

Living WITH Jesus TODAY

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What have you decided to do with your wood cross from last week and how has it impacted you?
- Why do you think the crowd picked Jesus to crucify over the notorious Barrabas?
- We are all "Barrabas" and we can easily replace our names in the Bible with his. Jesus was crucified in OUR place. How does this substitution crucifixion make you feel?
- After nearly 2000 years, do you see a correlation between how the people felt about Jesus then and how many view Christianity now?
- In Pastor Bob's story of Demis and Mateo, what do you think changed in Mateo to soften his heart to Jesus?
- In Matthew 27:44 it states "The robbers who were crucified with him, also heaped insults on him". Even after all Jesus had been through, all the suffering and persecution, He continued to forgive and pray for his enemies. What lesson can we take away from Jesus's example
- Understanding that Jesus can forgive a lifelong criminal in the last moments of his life... How does this make you feel about those who are lost and unbelieving?
- Give an example of how God's grace has changed your life or the life of someone you know? (By grace you have been saved) Ephesians 2:4-5

NEXT STEPS: Find one act of grace you can do for someone this week.