

“Crucified Glorified” Questions Week 3—Guilt and Innocence

1. Sometimes we talk about an action being “*heartfelt*” or we say that a person “*put her whole heart into it.*”
 - What do we mean when we say those phrases?
 - Why is it important that people “put their heart” into things?
 - Describe a moment in your life when you just “*went through the motions.*” Compare it to a moment when you did something because “*your heart was in it.*”
2. Sometimes, faith can be reduced to a collection of doctrinal teachings. While teachings are essential to belief, faith is also a matter of the heart.
 - In what ways do we ignore the heart in our relationship with God and our life of discipleship?
 - What happens when we do that?
 - Share a moment in your life when faith became more than a teaching for you and touched your heart.
3. This week in the prayer journal *Crucified. Glorified.*, we read how Judas prepared to betray Jesus (Matthew 26:1–5, 14–16) and how Jesus prepared to celebrate the Passover with his disciples (Luke 22:7–15). When Jesus was faced with his betrayal by Judas, he did not flee from Jerusalem. Instead, he chose to celebrate Passover. In fact, in Luke, Jesus tells the disciples that he has “*earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer*” (Luke 22:15).
 - If you knew that somebody was going to betray you, what would you do? Why?
 - Why does Jesus respond to this hatred with love?
 - How does this response relate to Jesus’ mission? (See Mark 10:45 and Luke 19:10.)
4. When King David was guilty of adultery, murder, and deceit, he came before God in confession of his guilt and received forgiveness for his sin from the prophet Nathan (2 Samuel 12:1–14). David’s prayer of repentance tells the story of a guilty heart that becomes innocent by God’s grace.
Read Psalm 51.
 - David describes his guilt in verses 3–5.
 - What qualities of his confession are powerful for you? Explain.
 - In the middle of the psalm, David prays that God would create in him a “clean heart” (Psalm 51:10). List the actions that David believes will flow from having a “clean heart.”
 - What implications does David’s prayer have for us today?
5. Because Jesus has taken away our guilt, we are able to come before God with clean hearts. This changes how we look at the past, the present, and the future.
 - Read Ezekiel 36:26–28 and share a prayer request regarding one of the paths that God is calling you to walk this week.

As you leave today, pray with and for one another. Share personal prayer requests. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw each of you closer to Christ and to one another as you prepare to celebrate the Savior’s resurrection.