Chapter 15 Study Questions

1. When does chapter 15 begin – what is happening?
2. What does the council do? Why?
3. What does Pilate ask the question in verse 2?
4. Why does Jesus refuse to answer the chief priests in verse 3?
5. Why does Pilate marvel in verse 5?
6. What was the reason for Pilate offering the chief priests and the multitude a choice between Jesus and Barabbas?
7. Who was Barabbas and why was he in prison?
8. Why is the crowd crying aloud in verse 8? What prompted it?
9. Why does Pilate question their intentions?
10. Why does Pilate ask the crowd what should happen to Jesus in verse 12?
11. Why is verse 13 so painfully ironic?
12. What is the charge the mob accuses Jesus of?
13. Why did Pilate want to gratify the mob?
14. What happens next? Why?
15. What do the crown of thorns and purple robe on Jesus?
16. What happened next?
17. Why was Simon of Cyrene compelled to carry Jesus’ cross?
18. What does Golgotha mean? Why was it called that?
19. Why did they give Jesus wine mixed with myrrh to drink?
20. Why did they cast lots for Jesus’ garments?
21. When is the 3rd hour and why the inscription above Jesus’ head?
22. Why were two robbers crucified next to Jesus? And why did the bystanders mock Jesus and “[wag] their heads?”
23. When is the 6th hour? What happened?
24. What is Jesus saying in verse 34? Why do some people think Jesus is crying to Elijah?
25. What happened in the Temple upon Jesus’ death? Why – what is the symbolism?
26. What is the statement of the centurion? Why?
27. Why does St. Mark mention the women who were there? Why is that important?
28. Why did Jesus and the robbers have to be dead by sundown?
29. Who is Joseph of Arimathea? What did he do that was extraordinary?
30. What is the point of verses 44-45?
31. What did Joseph and the other do with Jesus’ body? Why?
32. What is the significance of verse 47?