

## Small Group Study Notes

### Mark 15:21-41

1. During the course of the Roman Empire hundreds of thousands of men were crucified. Pool your knowledge of everything you know about crucifixion = eg - where did the practice start; when and why did it die out; why did the Romans use it; and so on.
2. We know: 1 Mark wrote his gospel in the city of Rome; 2 a Rufus was one of the church members there (Rom 16:13). With these two pieces of information what story can we draw from the little scene of this man from Cyrene being conscripted to carry the cross?
3. Read the following, Ex 10:21-23; Amos 5:20 & 8:9; Isa 5:30 & 13:10 & 34:4; Joel 2:2; And Mat 22:13 & 24:29. What do you believe the three hours of darkness were all about?
4. Read Isa 59:2 and then listen to Jesus cry in v34. Paul says, "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us". But how?
5. Why do you think God tore the curtain in the temple?
6. What do you think it was that caused the centurion to come to his conclusion (v39)?
7. Why do you think Mark names the key women who stay to the end?