

# “The Verdict Is In” Group Guide

**Series:** [RE]UNION

**Passage:** John 18:33-40

**Speaker(s):** Pastor Ryan Paulson

**Date:** March 24, 2024

## ICEBREAKER:

- What would you do if you were king or queen for the day?
- Who is the smartest person you have ever met?

## The Verdict Is In

John 18:33-40

You must decide if you accept **Jesus’ verdict** about how to **live abundantly**.

1. **Love** triumphs over **power**.
2. **Truth** reigns over **deception**.

Jesus **bore our guilt** so that we could **walk in freedom**.



## Learning His Way

*(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus that is found in the text.)*

1. Read John 18:33-40.
2. What stands out in these verses?
3. Read Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 31:5; Isaiah 65:16. John 14:5:7 and John 8:31-32. What do these verses tell us about truth?
4. Did Pilate feel threatened by Jesus “King of the Jews”? Why or why not?



## **Forming His Heart**

*(This is the part of the study where we work on our hearts. “How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?”)*

5. Where and/or when are you most tempted to bend the rules to please others instead of doing what is right? Why is this?
  
6. Galileo was right! The Earth revolves around the sun. The church was resistant to accept this truth. Are there any ideas or narratives that you might resist rethinking that are worth another look based on the life of Jesus?
  
7. What thoughts and feelings does the statement “Both men will get what they don’t deserve — one death, the other life” stir within you?
  
8. What areas of your life are difficult to surrender to the kingship of Jesus?



## **Joining His Mission**

*(This is the part of the study that we ask, “What would God want us to do because of this passage?”)*

9. How can you live your life this week where love triumphs over the exercising of power?
  
10. How might you model trust versus control this week?