



## **Trading Places**

### **Mark 15:6-21**

#### **Sermon Points:**

1. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ in our place.
2. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ when we believe in Him.
3. When we follow Jesus, we will \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ comes standard with the Christian life.

**March 22, 2020**

## **Going Deeper into “Trading Places” – Mark 15:6-21**

**Allegorically, Barabbas is a picture of each of us, with Jesus taking our place on the cross.** Compare the accusations against Jesus (Luke 23:1-5) and the deeds of Barabbas from today’s passage. In what ways is Barabbas actually guilty of what the priests accuse Jesus of doing?

Romans 3:23 says “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” What deeds or thoughts in your life are you guilty of, but that Jesus, though innocent, paid for on the cross?

Jesus and Barabbas traded places, with Jesus going to the cross and Barabbas going free. What do you think Barabbas should have done with his freedom? What have you done with yours?

**Barabbas was not the only person to trade places with Jesus that day; Simon did as well.** Have you ever considered Simon of Cyrene as one who took Jesus’ place? What did it mean for Jesus not to carry His cross, but for a stranger to be pressed into it by the Romans?

Just as Barabbas is a picture of Jesus taking our place, Simon is a picture of what discipleship looks like. What burdens have you discovered you carry since you have been following Jesus?

The cross interrupted Simon’s life and plans. How has God’s call to follow Jesus interrupted your own plans? How have you experienced unexpected suffering for Jesus as Simon did?

***If you are so inclined, please pray: Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus as our Savior, to take our place and to pay our price on the cross. Help us to accept the cross of discipleship and follow Him. Give us strength for the days ahead as we face various trials as Jesus’ followers. Help us to proclaim the gospel honestly, sharing the freedom but also the cost of following Jesus. Help us to serve You faithfully no matter our circumstances. Amen.***