

# MAGNIFY

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 4 • 3/28/2021

## Stuck in Neutral

Matthew 27:11-26

Introduction: It's clear there are some people who love Jesus and others who hate him. But what if you want to just stay neutral?

### Tips from Pilate for those “Stuck” in Neutral

#### About Jesus:

- No matter how much \_\_\_\_\_ you collect, you'll still have to take a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (Mt. 27:11-14, 18-19)
  
- You cannot \_\_\_\_\_ about Jesus forever, even if you would like to. (Mt. 27:15-17, 20-23)
  
- You will be held \_\_\_\_\_ for your choice regardless of your \_\_\_\_\_. (Mt. 27:24-26)

Conclusion: The desire to stay neutral is understandable, but eventually you'll be forced to pick a side. Which will you choose?

## Week 4 Plan to “Make It Stick”

### Day One:

-Read Matthew 26:47-56. (Judas Betrays Jesus with a Kiss)

- ⇒ Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss? How do you think Jesus felt as he did so?
- ⇒ Why does Jesus just surrender to the mob? Why NOT fight back?

### Day Two:

-Read Matthew 26:57-68. (Jesus Stands Trial.)

- ⇒ Why do you think that Jesus refuses to speak in his own defense? Couldn't his testimony have swayed the Council?
- ⇒ Why do the normally reserved religious leaders become so violently unhinged around Jesus (see verse 67-68, especially)?

### Day Three:

-Read Matthew 26:69-75. (Peter Denies Jesus.)

- ⇒ How is it possible that Peter has forgotten what Jesus said about denying him earlier that night? What's going on in Peter's head?
- ⇒ Is Peter's reaction to his failure strong enough?

### Day Four:

-Read Matthew 27:3-10. (Judas Expresses Remorse.)

- ⇒ What seems to “change Judas's mind” about what he did?
- ⇒ Is Judas's reaction to his failure strong enough? How does it compare to Peter's?

### Day Five:

-Read Matthew 27:16-17, 20-21, 26. (Barabbas Goes Free.)

- ⇒ Can you imagine how Barabbas must have felt to discover that he was unexpectedly to go free?
- ⇒ If you were a guilty criminal, and Jesus took your punishment for you, and you went free as a result, how might that change your life? What would you do differently?