

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate you can visit www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team



TRIDUUM FRIDAY.

MY NOTES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

WOMEN'S:

THE REDEEMED LIFE

This Saturday, 11a-2p

Come hear two of our very own share their stories of God's Redemption in their lives.

Childcare is provided, but you must sign up.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms: April 19th at 1pm

Signup today if you'd like to get baptized. There will be a short

**Informational Meeting NEXT SUNDAY
Following Each Service.**

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 3rd

7pm & 8:30pm

Due to serious nature, childcare from birth-elementary will be available at 7pm service.

EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, April 4th @ 6pm

(nursery care only)

Sunday, April 5th @ 8:15, 9:30 & 11am

(full childrens programs)

TODAY'S VERSES:

JOHN 19:12

ACTS 5:36-37

LUKE 23:39-42

LUKE 23:3

MATTHEW 27:24

JOHN 19:15

MARK 15:2

MATTHEW 27:11

JOHN 18:33

MATTHEW 21:9

JOHN 11:47-50

MARK 14:55-56

MARK 14:36

JOHN 10:17-18



TRIDUUM

FRIDAY.

*From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar."
- John 19:12*

At Element we have been taking a 10 week journey towards Easter; we have called this our Lent-like passage through a time of sober and thoughtful reflection of what is going on in our lives as God's Spirit shines His light into the deepest parts of our hearts. This started by walking through the 7 churches listed in Revelation chapters 2 & 3 (you can listen to these message online at www.ourelement.org). We, on our build towards Easter and Resurrection, now move into looking at the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of Jesus' death and resurrection.

John Ortberg asks in his book, *Who Is This Man*, "How did Friday end as Friday? Why did Jesus die? How did this man (meek and mild, blesser of little children, friend of sinners) end up being executed as an enemy of the state?" Friday ends with 3 crosses erected outside of Jerusalem. Two of these crosses have thieves nailed to them, while one is already empty, yet it has a sign over it that reads: Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. It's in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek.

Put in your own words why Jesus died.

In the ancient world of Jesus' day there were twelve major players that led to Jesus' death on cross:

- **Rome.** Jesus died because He was a threat to Rome.

The word Christ came from the Greek word *creo* (to anoint), it meant the Anointed One or the Messiah.

- **The Crowds in Jerusalem.** These are the Israelites in Jerusalem who are waiting for a political, military leader/Messiah, who will lead them in a revolt against Rome.

If you got caught up following one of these messiahs and got arrested you would be killed.

- **The Thieves crucified with Jesus.**

Read Luke 23:39-42. What do you think it would have been like to hang on a cross next to Jesus?

Where would your thoughts have turned?

Which thief would you have been like?

- **Pilate.** Pilate rules over Judea (and Jerusalem) on behalf of Caesar.

- **Chief Priests** (the guys in charge of the temple).

- **Pharisees** (mostly teachers of the law). They wanted to purify Israel because they believed if they could get the people to go back to the bible then God would destroy Rome and liberate Israel.

- **Zealots** (their strategy was to fight). They believed if they were courageous and took up arms that God would bless Israel & destroy Rome.

- **Essenes** (withdrew from everything). They started their own cult community and believed when enough people lived like them, God would wipe out everyone else.

All these people in Jerusalem agreed to kill Jesus.

- **Herod** (oversees Galilee)

- **Crowds at the Temple.** Those looking for God's liberation like He liberated His people from Pharaoh in Egypt.."

The crowds cry to free Barabbas because even though Barabbas is a murderer, he is willing to kill Romans.

- **Caesar.** - Ruler of Rome. What does Caesar want? Grain

Who do you resemble from Friday (not limited to picking just one)? Why?

- Twelfth Player in the story: **Jesus.** King of Kings, Lord of lords, crucified for our sins: Jesus.

He prays to the Father *Mark 14:36* "Yet not what I will, but what you will."

If Jesus fled, His disciples will be gathered and executed. He dies and they're saved. Jesus knows if He says the word and the crowds will follow Him and Rome will come down and destroy Jerusalem. He dies to save Jerusalem. He dies for people who hate Him.

Read John 10:17-18. Who was responsible for Jesus' crucifixion?

Jesus knows rebels always die and yet He dies on a cross in place of the rebels, like Barabbas and like us. He goes to the cross, He dies, and the whole world is offered freedom from sin and death.

In what ways are you a rebel that Jesus needed to die for?

What ways do you think you know BETTER than Jesus the call on your life?

How have you tried to push Jesus into a mold you made for Him, rather than acknowledging Him as King of Kings?