**“The Right Thing to Do”**

Going deeper in Mark 15:42-47

**INTRODUCTION** – Jesus has been crucified. A man by the name of Joseph of Arimathea comes to Pilate (the Roman governor of Judah) with a request.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 42 It was evening on the day of preparation before the Sabbath. 43 Joseph from Arimathea, a prominent member of the Sanhedrin who was waiting for the kingdom of God, courageously came before Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 44 Pilate was astonished that Jesus was already dead so he called in the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. 45 When Pilate learned that it was so he presented the body to Joseph. 46 Joseph bought some fine linen cloth and had the body taken and wrapped in the linen. He had him placed in a tomb which had been cut out of the rock. He had a stone rolled in front of the entrance of the tomb. 47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why do you think Joseph decides to ask for Jesus’ body?

2. Members of the Sanhedrin were instrumental in Jesus’ trial, conviction, and crucifixion. What might be their reaction to Joseph asking for Jesus’ body?

3. Considering the fact that Jesus was crucified as a criminal what might be the risk for Joseph when he asks the Roman governor (Pilate) for the body?

4. What options do you think Pilate had when it came to Joseph’s request?

5. There appears to be no expectation on the part of the disciples or even Joseph that Jesus would be resurrected. In their minds the movement Jesus started ended on the cross. Why do you think Joseph still takes the risk and asks for the body?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Start each by praising the LORD and then lay down before him all the things you have planned and ask him what he wants in your day.

\*Ask the LORD to give you the courage to be an example of someone who does the right thing despite the risk.

\*In the evening go back through your day with the LORD. Thank him for the ways that he worked in and through your life. Ask forgiveness for the ways that you didn’t walk with him.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Joseph takes a risk to give Jesus a proper burial. He considers it the right thing to do despite the risk. What are the “right” things you are being called to do despite the risk?