

Countdown to Calvary

**24 hours
in the life of Jesus
Luke 22-23**

**Figures around the Cross
Luke 23.26-43**

A tableau of figures - *where would you be?*

1. A Chosen Cross-bearer, v26

➤ *Simon from Cyrene*

a picture of true discipleship

sacrificing his own plans to follow Jesus 9.23-26

a family of believers? Mk 15.21; Rom 16.13

2. Concerned Women, v27-31

➤ *Citizens of Jerusalem*

weeping for Jesus, but facing destruction

Hosea 10.8; Lk 21.20-24

Jesus looks for repentance, not sympathy

3. Callous Soldiers, v33-34,36-38

- *What they had done already* **Mat 27.27-31**
mocked and beaten Jesus
 - *What they were doing now* **John 19.23-24**
grabbing what they could off Jesus
 - *What they continued to do* **vs 36-37**
mock Jesus
after he had pleaded for their forgiveness
- beware of spurning Christ's forgiveness**
Heb 6.4-6

4. Cold-hearted Bystanders, v35

- *More mocking* **Mat 27.39-43; Ps 22.6-8**
pre-occupation with self-preservation

5. Criminals facing execution, v32,39-43

- ***The impossible request v39***
“Save yourself - and us!” Mat 27.17
to save others, he had to sacrifice himself
- ***Divided destinies vs 40-43***
he recognised his own guilt
and Jesus’ complete innocence
he recognised Jesus for who he claimed to be
and cast himself on King Jesus for mercy
he received a heart-warming assurance
a cast iron guarantee
the company of Jesus
in a place of bliss and beauty
Phil 1.21-23; 2 Cor 5.8