BAD BOYS OF EASTER

Week 6: Pilate + Standing Firm

What'cha gonna do when they come for you? They all came, or they all left him. One by one, disciples, religious leaders, and the Roman Governor, were the bad boys who sent Jesus to the cross. Count down the last hours of Jesus' life with these bad boys who deceived, doubted, denied, and ultimately put Jesus to his death.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever felt you were in a bigger battle between good + evil? Describe your experiences.

2. **Read Ephesians 6:10-18.**

    Do you agree with Paul when he describes the need to be strong and stand against the devil's schemes (v. 11), and also keep strong in our struggle against the spiritual forces of darkness (v. 12)? Why or why not? Discuss as a group.

3. **Read Matthew 4:1-11.** What is the power of the devil - to create evil or tempt us to do it? What is the difference, and what does this say about the power of evil vs. the power of God? Considering your response and Ephesians 6:10-18, how do the devil's schemes and spiritual forces of darkness interrupt the grace of God?

4. Why are people commanded to put on the armor of God? What are the different pieces of armor? Using a concordance, find these pieces of armor throughout the Bible and discuss as a group.

    What does God's command to put on the armor say about our participation in the grace of God and our desire to submit to his leadership and Lordship? How well are you doing at putting on your armor lately? Which pieces of armor are you experiencing difficulty putting on or wielding?

5. On Sunday we learned that Pilate was the final bad boy of Easter who sent Jesus to the cross. Considering our study above, do you think Pilate was being used as an instrument of the devil to kill Jesus? Discuss as a group, and attempt to find Biblical evidences to support your claims.

    BE THE REVOLUTION

    God gives us the grace of armor to fight against the devil and his evil schemes.

    RENOVATING THE HEART

    Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power *(Ephesians 6:10)*.