

The Soldiers Mock Jesus—[Mark 15:16–20](#)

Topics:

Criticism, Endurance, Humiliation, Pain, Persecution, Sacrifice, Suffering

Open It

1. How have your friends encouraged you during difficult times in your life?
2. *What kids do you remember being mocked or put down when you were in elementary school?
3. What do you think it would be like to go through a painful experience without the support of your friends or family?

Explore It

1. Where did the soldiers take Jesus after His trial with Pilate? ([15:16](#))
2. Who was present there in the palace? ([15:16](#))
3. Once Jesus had been tried, convicted, and sentenced, who mocked and struck Him? ([15:16–20](#))
4. What kind of suffering did Jesus undergo even before being crucified? ([15:16–20](#))
5. *What did the soldiers do to Jesus? ([15:17–20](#))
6. Why did the soldiers put a purple robe and a crown on Jesus? ([15:17](#))

7. *What did the soldiers say in mockery of Jesus? ([15:18](#))
8. *Why did the soldiers fall on their knees before Jesus? ([15:19](#))
9. How did the soldiers hurt Jesus? ([15:17–20](#))
10. What do the soldiers' actions tell us about their understanding of who Jesus really was? ([15:17–20](#))

Get It

1. What do you think the soldiers had heard about Jesus?
2. How do you think the soldiers' actions affected Jesus emotionally?
3. *What difference does it make that Jesus endured harsh ridicule and pain for our sake?
4. When have you been ridiculed for being a Christian?
5. How does it feel to be mocked by others?
6. *How should we respond when others mock our faith?
7. How can we show our appreciation to Jesus for enduring such humiliation for us?
8. What can we learn from Jesus about how to deal with pain and suffering?

9. Why does God allow us to suffer?

10. For what Christians who are suffering for their faith can you pray?

Apply It

1. *What should be your response if you are criticized for your faith this week?
2. What could you say or do to encourage another believer who is suffering for his or her faith?