

APRIL 9

## Communion is...

**Communion is** privilege... being one of several significant meals recorded in Scripture where God reveals Himself. How privileged I am to be invited to eat of it!

## Read Matthew 27:35-54

**To begin today, I'd like to zoom in on a little detail we find in verse 36.** It would be easy to read right over it, but if we do, we will miss something worth seeing...

**In verse 36 we find** that after the guards had hung Jesus on the cross and divided his garments among themselves, ***“they sat down and began to keep watch over Him there.”*** This phrase, ***“keep watch”*** took me right back to the night before in Matthew 26 when Jesus instructed the disciples to ***“watch”*** as well. The disciples blew it. They didn't watch. **But these guys, well they have a front row seat to see Jesus all day long.**

**Fast forward to verse 54** after Jesus breathed His last and we hear these guards who were watching say, ***“Truly this was the Son of God.”***

**What about the others?** Because this section tells of many others who were also there, but they weren't really watching Jesus. Instead they mocked Him. Here was Jesus, but their eyes were fixed on the old covenant, the law, their own understanding, their traditions, even their shame. See even the criminals on either side of Jesus joined in the mocking. Thankfully we know from another account of this story that one of the criminals actually did end up watching Jesus and found salvation that day.

**So, what is the point?** The point is when we keep our eyes on Jesus, our eyes will take in the fullness of Who He really is! The Son of God! But when our eyes are fixed elsewhere, we will miss Him. **Every person that day had the opportunity to sit down at the foot of Jesus' cross and take Him in.** To see His body broken and blood poured out for their salvation. The only ones who really did were the guards.

**We know that the guards were just doing their job, but that God in His mercy** positioned them right where they needed to be. And often times God will do the same for us. One of the ways He has already mercifully done so is by inviting us into the special meal of communion. A meal where we can sit across the table from Jesus and see Him for Who He really is. **That invitation is a special privilege and it is open to all.** We just need to say yes, find our seat and take Jesus in.

## Prayer Conversation Starter...

**Jesus, I want to see You!** I don't want to quickly walk by and see You through the eyes of my own culture and traditions and understanding... but I want to see You for Who You really are. **Thank You for inviting me to the table where I can truly see...**



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