

August 26, 2018
The Cross
Joe Wilson

1. When you think about Jesus's execution and the ordeal leading up to it, what hurts you the most?
2. Read Luke 23:32-43, the passage about the two thieves crucified on either side of Jesus.
 - *What are the lessons we might learn from this passage?
 - *Joe contrasted the two thieves in many ways, two of them are scoffer and believer and hard heart and soft heart. What are some other contrasts?
 - *Would you say these are the two main groups of people today? What are some other categories?
3. What led you to choose one side or the other?
4. How is a Christ follower different than most who aren't? Why are some people who aren't believers often as compassionate and generous as those who are?
5. Joe Wilson said it's been reported that 96 percent of Christians are "half-hearted."
 - *What do you think half-hearted means in this context?
 - *Do you agree with that statement?
 - *Should Matthew 24:12 and Revelation 3:14-16 factor in when considering the statement?
6. Who do you know that has been transformed by the "touch of the Master's hands"?
7. What requirements are there for us to be on the right side of the cross? Do we have to get things right before we're made right?
8. Have you allowed Jesus to pay IN FULL your certificate of death? How has shame kept you a slave? Do you believe the cross makes you clean and whole?
9. Paul called himself a bondservant or slave (one owned and bought) to Christ. In what way does that seem apt? Can it be a beautiful thing despite the negative connotation the word "slave" often has? What would being a "slave" to Christ look like?
10. Have you been baptized? When? What did that sacrament mean to you?