

# Message Notes

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## **A Rooster & a Potter's Field**

*The Gospel According to Matthew*

*Matthew 26:31-35, 69-27:10*

*March 18, 2007*

# Message Outline

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## **A Rooster & a Potter's Field**

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### **I. WHO has guilt . . .**

- A. The religious
- B. The powerful
- C. The poor
- D. Jews & Gentiles
- E. Judas
- F. Peter

### **II. WHAT we do with guilt . . .**

- A. Denial & Self Righteousness (the chief priests & the elders)
- B. Regret & Self Punishment (Judas)
- C. Real Repentance (Peter)
  - 1. He is exposed.
  - 2. He is broken.
  - 3. He is restored.

### **III. HOW the cross is the fix for guilt . . . (Isaiah 53)**

- A. We've got to KNOW it.
- B. We've got to BELIEVE it and RECEIVE it.
- C. We've got to CLING to it and APPLY it.
- D. We've got to SHARE it.

## **Growth Group Understanding Questions**

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1. Read Matthew 26:69-27:10 again. Where is Jesus in this text? What is he doing? Read Isaiah 53. How do these passages relate?
2. How are Peter's denials progressive? In v. 72, what does it mean that he denied it "with an oath"? In v. 74, what does it mean that he began to curse and swear?
3. What had Peter said back in v. 35? What factors lead to Peter's denial in v. 35 and v. 37-46?
4. How do the religious leaders deal with their guilt? How does Judas deal with his guilt? How does Peter deal with his guilt?
5. Why does our author Matthew place Peter's weeping and Judas' suicide side by side? What does he want us to see? What is the difference between Judas and Peter?

## **Growth Group Application Questions**

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1. What was new and most challenging in the text/message this week and why?
2. Why is the idea of guilt before a Holy God such a foreign and offensive concept in our culture? Where do you see the depravity and guilt of humankind in our world? (Or maybe the question is where don't you see it?)
3. Which response best describes how you deal with your guilt? Do you deny and try and cover it with your own self righteousness? Do you despair and try and punish yourself? Do you repent? (Not what should you do, but what do you tend to do?)
4. Why is it so hard to believe and cling to the Gospel in our world? What can we do about that? How do we counteract that?